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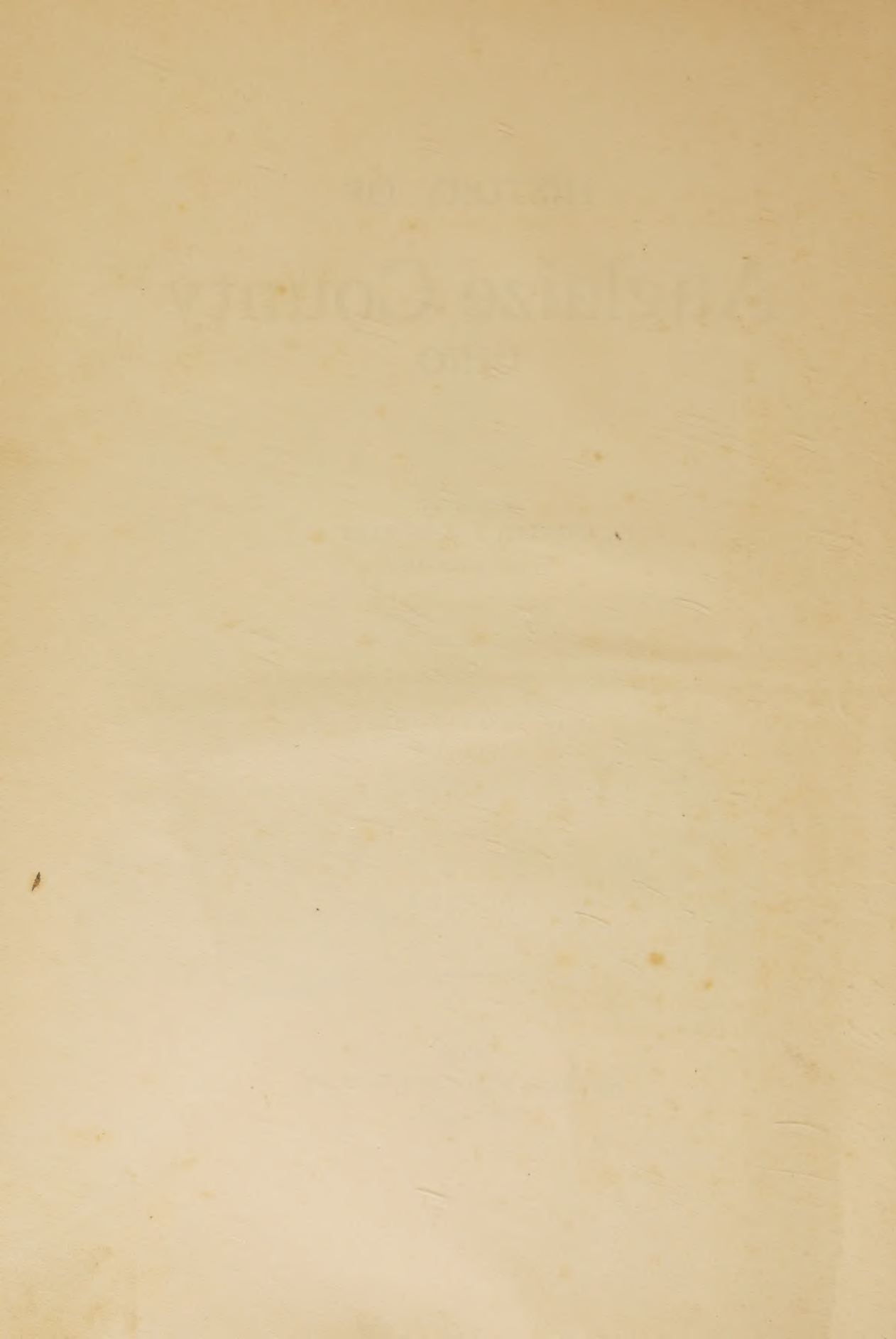
HISTORY OF
Auglaize County
OHIO

EDITED BY
WILLIAM J. McMURRAY
Wapakoneta, Ohio

IN TWO VOLUMES
Illustrated

VOLUME I

1923
HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
Indianapolis



*"Remember the days of old,
Consider the years of many generations."*

DEDICATION
This Work is Respectfully
Dedicated to
THE PIONEERS
Long Since Departed

*May the memory of those who laid down their
burdens by the wayside ever be fragrant as the
breath of summer flowers, for their toils and
sacrifices have made Auglaize county a garden
of sunshine and delight.*

*"This shall be written for
the generation to come."*

PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

History is a systematic record of past events, especially the events in which man has taken part. "The perfect historian," says Macaulay, "is he in whose work the character and spirit of the age is exhibited in miniature." A glance at the Table of Contents of this History of Auglaize County will disclose a design on the part of the publishers of this work to set out here a systematic record of the events which have led up to the present state of development of this favored region, beginning with the time a century and more ago when the first permanent white settlement was made in this territory, and in carrying out this design the compilers have sincerely sought to preserve something of "the character and spirit of the age," so that there shall here be preserved a faithful chronicle of the aspirations and the achievements of the pioneers, at the same time tracing and recording the social, religious, educational, political and industrial progress of the community from its inception. The context will reveal the sincerity of purpose upon which the present publication is based; a purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of perpetuation for the information of coming generations and which shall serve as links uniting the present to the past. To those who have so faithfully labored to this end, the publishers desire to extend their thanks. An expression of obligation is due to the people of Auglaize county for the uniform kindness with which they have regarded this undertaking, and for their many services rendered in behalf of the historiographers. It is believed that it will be found that this unselfish collaboration has secured to Auglaize county a history that will serve as a standard in this field for the next generation and as an authentic guide to future generations.

In passing, it is thought that it will not be regarded as out of place for the publishers conscientiously to claim that in placing this work before the people of Auglaize county they faithfully have carried out the plan as outlined in the prospectus upon which the work is based.

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CHAPTER I.

GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY.

Cut, as they were, from the earlier organized counties of Allen and Mercer, the boundaries of Auglaize county are about as irregular as those of any county in the state, its greatest length, from east to west, being about thirty-nine miles and its width, from north to south, varying from seven and one-half miles to twenty-three miles. The county contains 394 square miles, comprised within fourteen townships, as follows: Wayne, Moulton and Logan, twenty-seven square miles; Union and St. Marys, thirty-six; Goshen and German, eighteen; Pusheta, Noble, Washington and Clay, thirty; Jackson, twenty; Duchouquet, forty-two, and Salem, twenty-four. Extending into the county from the west for about two miles is the Grand Reservoir, or Lake St. Marys, created in the '30s as a "feeder" for the Miami and Erie canal, a body of water covering at flood something like 17,000 acres of land and declared to be the largest artificial body of water in the world.

In a monograph on the Topography and Geology of Auglaize county written in 1880 by the late Prof. C. W. Williamson, formerly and for years superintendent of schools at Wapakoneta, and amplified by him for publication in his "History of Western Ohio and Auglaize County" (1905), this eminent local authority pointed out that Auglaize county lies at the southern extremity of the region commonly known as the "Black Swamp." It is only the northwestern portion of the county, however, that possesses the characteristics peculiar to that noted region. The county is situated on

the watershed sloping toward Lake Erie, except a small portion in the eastern and southeastern sections which is drained by the Sciota river, this division of the watershed being plainly marked in the vicinity of St. Johns; and the lower part of Jackson township, which drains into the Miami. The situation of the county being near the summit of the great divide in Ohio, it necessarily contains no large streams. The Auglaize river rises in the northeastern portion of the county, just north of Waynesfield, and flows in a southwestern direction through Union and Duchouquet townships to Wapakoneta and from thence, in a northerly direction, through the townships of Moulton and Logan and thence on to its confluence with the Maumee at Defiance. The St. Marys river rises in Pusheta township and flows north through the townships of St. Marys and Noble, thence westerly through Salem township, passing out of the county in section 30 of this latter township and thence west until it joins the St. Joseph river of the Maumee at Ft. Wayne. Springs flowing from the gravelly deposits in the ridges afford a sufficient quantity of water for stock and the irrigation of the low lands along the streams. With the disappearance of the forests and the systematic drainage of the land, the volume of the streams has diminished to the point that there no longer is sufficient power for mill purposes.

There are three main ridges extending through portions of the county, each having its gravelly lateral moraines and knolls. The older one crosses German township, the northwest corner of Shelby county and Pusheta, Clay and Union townships. The villages of New Bremen and St. Johns are situated upon it. Owing to its remarkable development at the latter point it has been named St. Johns ridge. Blackhoof Mound, in the southern part of the village, is a huge pile of well washed gravel. Other extensive gravel deposits throughout the county have been of incalculable value in road construction. The second ridge, called the Wabash Ridge, enters the county west of the town of St. Marys, passing through St. Marys, Moulton and Duchouquet townships.

The Auglaize river cuts through this ridge at Wapakoneta. The third passes through the northern part of Salem township. This is simply a broad undulation, or thickening of the drift, and is composed of coarse, heavy clay.

REVIEW OF GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

The details of the geology of Auglaize county have become better known since the discovery of petroleum in the local field. The rock exposures are confined to the bed and banks of the Auglaize river, in sections 22, 27 and 35, in Logan township. With these exceptions, the rock underlying the county is covered by heavy beds of drift, varying in thickness from a few feet (in the sections noted) to 150 feet in other localities. The waterline formation underlies nearly the whole county. If the drift deposits were removed the rock would exhibit ridges, hills, gorges, glacial scratches, boulders and other glacial debris scattered over its surface.

The pre-glacial drainage of the county is represented by a deep gorge, commencing on the county line in section 34, Duchouquet township, and extending in a southwesterly direction, through Wapakoneta, to section 12, in Washington township. From that point it extends near a 45° line to section 34 in St. Marys township, from which point it takes a more southerly direction to section 28 in Jackson township. From this latter point the gorge has been traced through Mercer county and for a considerable distance into the state of Indiana.

The direction of the glacial striae, direction of pre-glacial drainage and arrangement of drift deposits are so striking in Auglaize county as to add weight to the glacial theory advanced by the state geologists, namely: That at some period in geologic time the northern half of North America was subjected to an elevation of many hundred feet above its present level. The elevation is believed to have been followed by an arctic climate reaching as far south as the 40th parallel of latitude. During the prevalence of the

long arctic winter, vast deposits of ice and snow accumulated on the long inclined plane, extending southward from the Arctic circle. When the accumulation became sufficiently great a movement down the plane commenced, and extended as far south as the Ohio river.

The history of the movements and effects of modern glaciers go far toward establishing the theory of an ancient glacial period. The ice period, or coldest epoch, was followed by a period of higher temperature and a subsidence of the rocky floor south of the Great Lakes. During this period of warmth the glaciers retreated to the northern line of the Great Lakes, and was replaced by an inland sea of fresh water. As the glacier melted the boulders imbedded in it sank to the rock floor. The waters discharged at the base of the glacial wall carried with them a fine material composed principally of pulverized shales and limestone that settled and covered the bottom of the inland sea. This deposit, called boulder clay, or blue clay, varies in thickness, from five to forty feet, in different sections of the county. The blue clay encountered in digging wells belongs to this deposit. The flour ground by the glacier was held longer in suspension, but in time settled in laminated layers on the boulder clay. The upper stratum is called the Erie clay. This division contains no boulders.

GREAT FOREST BEDS SUBMERGED.

After a period of perhaps thousands of years, a subsidence of the area south of the Great Lakes took place, submerging the forest beds and destroying the animal and vegetable life of the era. During this period of submergence the forest beds were covered with clay, sand and gravel, carried and distributed by icebergs, from the retreating glacier on the north. The great moraines and their laterals exhibited in the county mark the direction of the ocean currents of that period. The well washed condition of the gravel in the Auglaize ridges may be attributed to the strength of the cur-

rents carrying the icebergs. The finely ground materials floated away and were discharged into waters having less motion, and deposited as beds of clay, whereas the gravel and larger fragments of detrius sank rapidly to the bottom of the current line.

Along the summit of the watershed extending through the county accumulations of drift material occur, which are peculiar in character and position. The deposits consist of sand, gravel and boulders, with a little admixture of clay. During the period of greatest submergence the larger part of the summit of the watershed was under water and was swept by breakers and shore waves, by which some of the beds of sand and gravel were formed. Along this line of shallows numerous icebergs stranded and as they melted away deposited their cargo of debris in the form of mounds, banks and circular inclosures, or "kettles." Currents cut through the watershed at St. Marys and near the southeastern corner of the county. All the lines of drainage leading to the south from these passes are marked by deeply excavated channels, now more or less permanently filled by accumulations of rolled or transported material. The surface indications at the source of the Sciota river exhibit the magnitude of the strait or channel connecting the glacial waters of the North with the warmer waters of the South. In the course of time the Sciota channel filled to such an extent that icebergs stranded on the submarine ridges and mounds, where they melted away, depositing their clay, sand, gravel and boulders around the circumference.

The numerous circular, bowl-shaped ponds on the summits of ridges and mounds in different sections of the county mark the localities of stranded icebergs. They constitute one of the most noticeable features of the eastern part of the county and vary in depth from ten to sixty feet. The deeper ones are filled with water the year round. A number of them of late years have been converted into fish ponds. A second surprising feature is the large number of boulders located on the summits of the highest ridges in the county.

These boulders vary much in composition. Specimens of gray granite, diorite, trachite and carbonate of lime are most common. In a ridge near Freyburg in Pusheta township boulders of bituminous coal are found. Specimens of quartz boulders containing copper and iron are common in certain localities.

ROCK STRUCTURE UNDERLYING AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

The county rests upon what is known in geology as the Silurian Age. This age is generally regarded as the lowest system of fossiliferous rocks and is named from that part of England and Wales which was inhabited by the ancient Silures, where this system is well exhibited and where it was first carefully studied. Were we to descend deep enough below the surface we should reach the limit of the stratified deposits of this age. At this point the great foundations of the continent are reached. The thickness of this underlying floor is unknown.

The Silurian Age consists of two great divisions, the Upper and Lower, and each of these is divided into well marked formations of rocks, the Upper Silurian consisting of the Lower Helderberg, the Niagara series, the Clinton series and the Medina shales, and the Lower Silurian of the Hudson river series, the Utica shales, the Trenton limestone and the Potsdam, the latter being supposed to underly the Trenton limestone. The depth of the Trenton period below the drift surface is generally from 1,000 feet to 1,500 feet. The seas of the Trenton period were densely populated with animal life. Many of the beds are made of the shells, corals and crinoids, packed down in bulk. Fragments of Trenton stone thrown from a well near Cridersville analyzed as follows: Carbonate of lime, 92.88 per cent; carbonate of magnesia, 3.90; insoluble matter, 3.22. The immediate cover of the Trenton limestone is a stratum of black shale 300 feet in thickness (Utica shale), crumbling and mostly of a dark blue-black or brownish-black color and frequently bituminous or carbonaceous, and is sparingly fossiliferous. The forma-

tion of the Hudson river series in Auglaize county consists of a soft blue shale, becoming darker as it approaches the Utica shale. The thickness of the formation varies from 500 feet to 600 feet in different localities in the county. This period is of special interest to paleontologists from the great variety of fossils which it contains. The Medina group in this county is represented by a stratum of red shale or red clay from two to ten feet in thickness, and is chiefly represented in the northern part of Duchouquet township. The Clinton group, a highly crystalline limestone, varies in thickness in this county from fifty to one hundred feet. The Niagara group, or Niagara limestone, varies from 200 feet to 300 feet in thickness in this county and is known to underly the drift in the townships of Wayne, Goshen, Clay, Pusheta, Washington, Jackson, German and St. Marys. This series is exceedingly rich in fossils. The exposures of the Lower Helderberg rocks (called water lime by the state geologists) is thin bedded, of a dark blue color, and contains a large percentage of organic matter, sometimes as high as thirty per cent of asphaltum. This stone is not well adapted to lime burning and shales too much, when exposed to the air, to be of much value as a building stone.

NATURAL STORAGE OF GAS AND PETROLEUM.

In connection with his survey of the topographical and geological conditions in this county, Professor Williamson dwelt at some length on the natural gas and oil development hereabout, referring to the intense interest aroused by the discoveries of gas and petroleum in the Findlay and Lima territories in the middle '80s and pointing out that following those discoveries explorations presently were begun in Auglaize county, and that every township in the county had been tested by the drilling of one or more wells. After reviewing various theories concerning the origin of petroleum the professor pointed out that rocks of all stratified series may be divided into two classes, permeable and porous strata. The

permeable strata are close grained and resist the passage of water or gas through them. Strata composed of the coarser grained material, such as sandstone and conglomerates, are of the second class or porous rock. Wherever the Trenton limestone is of this porous character, and is not over 400 feet below sea level, it is never found empty. It is either found filled with gas, oil or water from the old Silurian sea. If the porous rocks be found within 400 or 500 feet of the surface the water is usually fresh. If found at a greater depth it is brackish.

The porous oil- and gas-bearing rock of Ohio is underlaid by several hundred feet of impermeable shale. The underlying porous strata may be composed of undulations and troughs, or—in geological language—of antilines or synclines; the gas occupying the summits of the arches and the oil filling the troughs. An arch of the kind described extends through the southern part of St. Marys township, with valuable oil troughs or pools on either side of it. The gas pressure above and around these pools varies in new fields from fifty pounds to 350 pounds to the square inch. (Written in 1905.) When the drill touches the oil pool the pressure of the gas forces the oil to the surface, producing a flowing well. It is seldom the case that the flow of oil continues for any considerable length of time. Usually it is intermittent. Ordinarily each flow of oil is followed by an escape of the gas that lifts the column of oil from the well. After the force of the gas is spent the oil is again forced forward by another volume of gas of high tension, when a second flow occurs. Each flow of oil diminishes the gas tension until in time the well ceases to flow, when it must be pumped.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY GAS AND OIL WELLS.

In 1885 a stock company was organized at Wapakoneta and a test well was drilled for gas in the southern part of the town. Much delay was experienced in driving casing through a continuous bed of gravel. Two attempts were made that failed. In the first well the pipe was driven 150

feet, when a boulder was encountered, preventing further progress. The derrick was then moved a few feet to the west, where a second attempt was made. At a depth of 180 feet at this location the casing collapsed and the attempt in this locality was abandoned. Since that time it has been discovered that a great gorge in the rock passes through the southern part of the town, filled with a drift deposit to the depth of nearly 400 feet.

A third location was selected half a mile north of the first ones. Here the drift was found to be ninety-six feet deep. The upper limestones were 192 feet thick. The red Medina shale was fifteen feet thick and possessed all the characteristics peculiar to that formation. Trenton rock was reached after passing through 632 feet of Hudson shale and 300 feet of Utica shale. The total depth of the well to Trenton limestone, therefore, was 1,235 feet, or 348 feet below tide. The drilling was continued to a depth of 1,600 feet without finding either gas or oil. Salt water was found at that depth, which ended the search. A fourth location was selected two miles north of No. 3, where a well was drilled. This repeated the history of the first three. The stockholders of the company became so much discouraged that nothing further was done in the way of drilling until 1888.

The next well drilled in the county was located at St. Marys. Early in the year 1886 a company was organized, consisting of one hundred stockholders; shares, \$20, each member holding a single share. A well was drilled and completed on July 24. The well head was 883 feet above tide and the surface of the Trenton, 313 feet below. The record of the drill revealed the following: Drift, 121 feet; upper limestones, 194; shales, 880; Trenton struck at 1,195 feet and the well was cased at 310 feet. A contemporary account of the operations at this first well in the county has it that "the Trenton was found hard and dry when struck. Under a cap of one and one-half feet a flow of gas was reached, which was presently followed by oil. The gas was in force sufficient to lift the oil. A production of several barrels a day

was delivered from the well, with some salt water. On August 5 the gas escaping from the separator was measured and the volume was found to be 58,080 cubic feet a day. The well was torpedoed in October with forty quarts of nitroglycerine, when the flow of gas was increased 200 per cent. The oil had a gravity of 35° B. The fact that there was a sufficient amount of gas pressure to lift the oil from the well had its natural effect on the oil speculators of the new field and land was largely leased, in consequence, for drilling purposes." Two other wells were drilled in the same fall. One, known as the Hopkins well, was brought in on October 9, and the other, known as the Hopkins & Gordon well, was brought in on November 24.

A state of great activity prevailed in St. Marys township during the following winter and summer. On March 23, 1887, a great gas well was drilled in section 30. The elevation of the well-head was 900 feet above tide. The Trenton limestone was reached at a depth of 1,138 feet below the surface, or 238 feet below tide. The volume of the well, measured on April 14, showed a daily production of 2,042,864 cubic feet. The Kellermeyer well, located in section 22, was drilled in soon after the well in section 30. In August of the same year the Hauss well, one-half mile east of St. Marys, was drilled in and continued profitable for years. In the fall of 1887 a natural gas company was organized at St. Marys and a gas main was laid along the principal street, extending to the Hauss well. A year later the city council took over the control of the plant, which meanwhile had been extended to cover all parts of the city, and bonds were issued to the amount of \$100,000, to cover the expense of the municipal undertaking, and by October of that year no fewer than 800 stoves, besides the mills at St. Marys, were using the new fuel. The use of gas soon became so general that more wells were needed and the city acquired leases on 1,100 acres of land lying to the south and east of the town at an annual rental of about \$1 an acre. The drilling of oil wells in close proximity to the arch on which the gas wells were located

diminished the gas pressure to such an extent that at the end of four years it became necessary to drill additional wells. Two years later (1894) the plant was sold to the Indiana Gas and Fuel Company for \$50,000, and since that time gas has been supplied from outside fields.

A local gas company was organized at Wapakoneta for the purpose of supplying the townspeople with gas in the fall of 1887, the enterprise starting with a capital stock of \$100,000, on which an assessment of 60 per cent was made preparatory to the establishment of the plant. Two hundred and eight acres of land in sections 14, 15 and 22 of St. Marys township were leased and three wells were drilled that fall. In the following spring and summer pipe lines were laid into Wapakoneta and the city piped for gas, the initial exhibition of the "magic fuel" being made in that city on the evening of July 19, a general merrymaking marking the event. When cold weather came 800 stoves in Wapakoneta were equipped with gas burners and the industrial concerns in the city also were utilizing the new fuel. For six years this local company operated the Wapakoneta gas plant and then sold the plant to the Indiana Gas and Fuel Company for \$40,000. In the fall of 1888 the people of New Bremen also organized a gas company and the town was piped with gas from the southern part of St. Marys township, the plant being ready for operation in the fall of 1889. This proved a remunerative plant and ten years later was sold to Toledo parties.

In the days of plentiful supply gas was used pretty generally throughout the county, many farmers having individual wells, and some few are still thus fortunately equipped. In neither St. Marys nor Wapakoneta did the supply of gas produce anything like the industrial "boom" that marked the use of this convenient and cheap fuel in certain of the other towns in the gas field and there consequently was none of the depression in these cities such as was suffered in some of the "boom" towns upon the failure of the gas field. The St. Marys gas field was tapped by the Lima Natural Gas Company in the summer of 1888 and in 1894 another pipe

line was laid from this field to Lima, which was thus supplied from that source for a number of years or until the field became exhausted. Wapakoneta and St. Marys are now (1922) supplied with gas from the Medina (Ohio) field and the supply of the fuel is ample for ordinary domestic uses, though the days of the old cheap gas long since passed. New Bremen and Minster are without gas.

OIL WELLS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

The first oil and gas lease executed in Auglaize county, according to the records in the county recorder's office, was that of July 19, 1886, by and between John N. Shipman and Louise Shipman, whose lands in the south edge of Noble township adjoined the town of St. Marys on the north, and Frank Cass and R. J. Wilson, of Lima, Ohio. This lease was for the use, for gas and oil purposes, of lands in the west half of the southwest quarter of section 35, township 5 south (Noble), range 4 east, and also the south half of the southwest quarter of same, and the consideration involved was \$50 a year for each gas well brought in on the lease and a royalty of one-eighth of all oil produced. It is proper to note in passing that this first lease was a productive and profitable one for both parties to the same.

A GOOD DEAL OF "FEVERISH" SPECULATION.

With this successful opening of the local field other leases followed in rapid succession, and before the end of May following more than three hundred leases had been recorded, the consideration by that time having increased to as much as \$200 for each gas well brought in and a royalty of one-sixth of all oil. Since that time thousands of oil and gas leases have been executed in this county, fourteen books of records now being on file in the recorder's office. A review of these records reveals a good deal of what perhaps at the time, in the early days of the oil field hereabout, was regarded as "feverish" speculation in these leases and many of the

transactions of course were quite profitable. Leases filed in the spring of 1922 have been executed on a basis of \$100 a year for all gas wells brought in, besides use of gas to the landowner, and a royalty of one-sixth on the oil produced. Wells are still being brought in, particularly in the northern and northwestern part of the county, the oil being turned into the pipe lines of the Standard Oil Company and pumped to the tanks at Lima. The old days of the flowing well, however, seem to have gone forever and a ten-barrel well is now regarded as a profitable operation, at the present price of the crude product, and a five- or six-barrel well workable. A bit of comparison in this connection will prove interesting. Professor Williamson's observations (1905) had it that "in the Auglaize county fields a well is rated large which starts at a flow of 200 to 250 barrels per day, and at the end of a month or so has only settled to fifty or seventy-five barrels."

HOW IT ALL CAME ABOUT

In his review of the oil and gas development the professor pointed out that "the public interest, aroused by the discovery of gas at Findlay, induced some drillers engaged in drilling for water at the Lima paper mill in 1885 to continue their work until they should reach Trenton rock. They were rewarded by a flow of oil and a small amount of gas.

"The news that Lima had 'struck oil' attracted speculators and oil operators from all the oil producing centers of the country. Soon after the Faurot well was drilled an organization was effected at Lima under the name of the Citizens Gas Company, the specific object of which was to ascertain the actual facts as to the existence of gas and oil in Trenton rock. A well was sunk near the Ottawa river in the city of Lima, which served the purpose for which it was drilled. It was the second pioneer well in the territory and began its course as a forty-five-barrel pumping well. Other wells were drilled in rapid succession. In December, 1886, the daily oil production was 9,500 barrels. In 1886 the great oil pools in the vicinity of Cridersville (Auglaize county)

were tapped on the Delong and Sellers farms. The Duchouquet township pools are a continuation of the Allen county field. The oil bearing rock of Auglaize county underlies portions of Duchouquet, Logan, Salem, Noble, St. Marys, Washington, Moulton, German and Jackson townships.

“The oil bearing rock attains a maximum thickness of twelve feet and an average thickness of eight to ten feet. It is generally covered by a hard, nonproductive cap, previously described in the first well drilled at St. Marys. Salt water is found at a depth of from fifteen to seventeen feet in the Trenton rock. If the quantity of salt water is not excessive it does not detract much from the value of the well. There have been numerous instances in which the salt water has been temporarily exhausted and followed by copious flows of oil. Ultimately, however, as a rule, it gains upon the oil in the well in which it originally appeared, and finally overcomes it.

“The maximum output of a well occurs, as a rule, soon after it is drilled in. If the yield of oil is great nothing further is done with it except to convey the product through pipes into receiving tanks. If the product of oil should be small the well is ‘shot’ to open up fissures in the oil- or gas-bearing rock and thereby increase the flow. * * * Each well is provided with one or two 250-barrel wooden tanks. The oil flows into the tank through the cover from the pipe leading from the well. Ten inches above the bottom is inserted the two-inch pipe through which the oil is pumped into the line of the transportation company. Close to the bottom is a wooden plug to let out any water coming in with the oil from a pumping well. * * * When the oil has been run into the lines of the Standard Oil Company the exact amount is calculated from the gauger’s memorandum, allowance being made for sediment and temperature, if necessary, and the amount is credited on the books of the company to each person having an ownership in the oil; that is, the royalty (usually one-eighth) is first taken out and placed to the credit of the owner of the mineral right, then the balance is

distributed in the designated proportion to each individual, if several parties are operating together, or to the firm as a whole, according to the wishes of the persons interested. The large iron tanks of the Standard Oil Company into which the Auglaize county oil flows are called working tanks. They are usually in pairs. When one is full the new oil is turned into the other, the first being meanwhile gauged and then emptied. From the working tanks the oil goes to the storage tanks, located within two or three miles of the Standard Oil refinery near the city of Lima. The storage tanks vary in capacity from 22,000 to 37,000 barrels."

In the days of oil plenty back in the late '80s and during the '90s oil was profitably produced at 15 cents the barrel. Now (1922) the price is \$1. Hope of reviving the field by explorations beneath the Trenton rock has not been abandoned and in the spring of this year there was organized at Wapakoneta a company of oil enthusiasts with a view presently to a sub-Trenton exploration of the fields north of town. A similar exploration was made during the summer of 1921 in one of the formerly most productive fields in Indiana, but without success.

ARTESIAN WELLS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

Before dismissing the subject of local geological formation it will be proper to notice briefly the numerous artesian wells throughout the county. In his admirable review along this line Professor Williamson noted that these artesian wells "are confined mainly to localities through which pre-glacial gorges extend. Nearly every deep well drilled in the gorge extending from Wapakoneta to the southwestern part of the county was a fountain well until the water was shut off by casing. The immense volumes of water, sand and gravel that flow from the wells in St. Marys township are impediments encountered by drillers in the gas and oil fields of that township.

"The wells differ much in depth. The water supply at Wapakoneta is derived from fourteen artesian wells having

a depth of forty feet. The same is true of the wells at St. Marys. In both villages the water from the wells is piped into receiving wells and is pumped from there into stand-pipes. The flow from wells having a depth of forty or fifty feet does not rise above two or three feet above ground. In most instances the water rises from a bed of gravel lying between two beds of impermeable blue clay.

“The great underground reservoir tapped by oil drillers varies in depth from 250 to 300 feet. The underlying bed of the shallower wells rests upon a bed of hardpan usually 200 feet in thickness, underneath which there is a second bed of gravel forty or fifty feet in thickness, resting upon a bed of impervious blue clay. The location of the fountainhead of these great wells is unknown. It is a well known fact that the water in artesian wells may come to the surface scores of miles from the place where it entered. In this county the flow is in a southerly direction. If therefore, we desire to locate the fountainhead, search must be made for it in the Canadian highlands, at a distance of several hundred miles from Auglaize county. The long distance that the subterranean current must traverse has led many people to doubt the truth of the general hypothesis. The theory has been advanced that the flow has been produced by a high pressure of carbonic acid and other carbonaceous gases. The water from these wells is highly charged with carbonic acid, which, by its solvent power, holds lime, gypsum, magnesium and iron in solution. Soon after exposure to the air the water loses its acid, which is immediately followed by a deposit of a portion of the minerals held in solution.

“The large flowing wells of the county are not wholly confined to the gorges passing through it. Many wells have been drilled on each side of the great gorge that have tapped the same reservoir. The following altitudes above sea level of wells located from half a mile to a mile back from the gorge present data of much interest to students of this subject: The John Mosler well, one mile east of Wapakoneta, 926 feet; the Charles Shafer well, southeast quarter of section 26,

Washington township, 1,025 feet; the M. Walter wells, southeast quarter of section 26, St. Marys township, 885 feet; the W. H. Koop wells, southeast quarter of section 15, St. Marys township, 887 feet; the L. Doenges wells, southwest quarter of section 30, St. Marys township, 880 feet. It will be observed that the water is lifted ninety-nine feet higher in the Charles Shafer well than in the Mosler well, and that the difference between it and the wells in St. Marys township are 140, 130 and 145 feet, respectively. It is difficult to account for the difference of hydrostatic force exerted except upon the hypothesis that each well has a source differing correspondingly in elevation. The differences in the chemical character of the water flowing from different wells are evidences in favor of the latter view of the problem. The water flowing from the Mosler well contains a small percentage of magnesium and iron, whereas the Shafer well yields water heavily charged with lime, iron and much carbonic acid. Differences of a similar character also occur in the wells of St. Marys township.

“In considering the difference of hydrostatic pressure in the different wells it is reasonable to suppose that it is augmented by the accumulation of gases along the flowing lines. The accumulations may result from decomposition of the sulphate and sulphide of iron. There are also reasons for belief that the pressure is augmented at points along the line by hydro-carbon gas from the Hudson shales that has forced its way upward through fissures in the overlying rocks. It is no uncommon thing for farm wells, when dug, to fill with carburetted hydrogen. When the ordinary lamp test for carbonic acid (commonly called damps) is applied the gas takes fire. It is frequently the case that the well is abandoned and a new location selected. Such instances were of frequent occurrence in localities in which oil and gas have since been discovered. Many wells have been dug in Auglaize county that have yielded large volumes of carbonic acid. Within the last thirty years (written in 1905) seven persons have been asphyxiated in wells of this class. In 1869 a well

was dug on the lot of the Freyman school house, located two miles north of Wapakoneta, that yielded copious volumes of this gas. The water was kept in a state of great agitation for several weeks. When the writer visited the well the noise of the agitated water was plainly audible at a distance of twenty rods from the well."

FLORA AND FAUNA OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

In his admirable survey of the flora and fauna of Auglaize county published in 1905 in connection with his all too brief History of Western Ohio and Auglaize County, Prof. C. W. Williamson, to whose unselfish researches along this line the people of this county owe so much, observes that "up to 1845 Auglaize county was unsurpassed for its stately trees of many valuable varieties. The splendor of its flora was displayed by its oaks, black walnut, butternut, poplar, hickory, ash, wild cherry, linden, tulip trees, with almost endless varieties of trees of minor values. Underneath these monarchs of the forest varieties of smaller growthed timber grew in great abundance. Many species of plants once common in the county have disappeared, or are found at rare intervals. The yellow lady's slipper and showy orchis, the wild orange red and Turk's cup lilies, the yellow puccoon and blue cohosh, the ginseng and squill, the white water lily, and yellow poplar, will in a few years be stricken from the flora of the county."

The review then given by the professor revealed enough to show that the botanical resources of this county are not inferior to any part of northwestern Ohio. In the list of forest trees there are set out ten varieties of the oak, four of the ash, three of the walnut, five of the hickory, four of the beech, the sycamore, seven of the maple, five of the poplar, five of the elm, two of the linden or basswood, the buckeye and a number not so common, including the hackberry, the sugar berry, red mulberry, honey locust, the wild cherry, the coffee tree and the cucumber tree, besides a long list of bushes

and trees of smaller size, including the ironwood, redbud, Judas tree, buckthorn, wild plum, bladdernut, box elder, dogwood, red osier, leatherwood, common elder, prickly ash, blackthorn, thorn apple, black haw, red haw, spice wood, wild gooseberry, fetid currant, pawpaws, hazel nut, sumach, poison ivy, poison oak, crab apple, and four varieties of willow. Of the flowering plants there are enumerated the dog's tooth violet, the rose colored cress, the bloodroot, blue flag, boneset, bluebell, chicory, yellow lily, deer's tongue, sweet William, white violet, yellow violet, blue violet, the yellow pond lily, the yellow puccoon, bellwort, rose anemone, pepper root, barren and wild strawberry, sunflower, elecampane, meadow rue, hound's tongue, spikenard, everlasting, wild potato vine, Jacob's ladder, cow parsnip, cowslip, dandelion, Dutchman's breeches, wild primrose, golden rod, liverwort, horse mint, ironweed, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Jamestown weed, twin leaf, lady's slipper, lily of the valley, cardinal flower, great lobelia, May apple (mandrake), yellow wood sorrel, spring beauty, white eardrop, skunk cabbage, touch-me-not, wake robin, birthroot and the large white trillium. In the list of pestiferous weeds there are enumerated the dogweed, the foxtail, ironweed, pigweed, horseweed, bindweed, cocklebur, white top, lamb's quarter, common thistle, purslane, burr grass, beggar's ticks, crab grass, smartweed, burdock, wild lettuce, wheat thief and the milkweed, while of the fern family there are enumerated no fewer than twenty-two varieties, these being set out with acknowledgement to a catalogue prepared by Prof. James E. Yarnell, formerly principal of the Wapakoneta high school, and including the silvery spleenwort, the bladder fern, the maiden hair fern, narrow leafed spleenwort, lady fern, the brake, the cinnamon fern, the sensitive fern, royal fern, beech fern, long beech fern, New York fern, crested fern, Goldie's fern, spinulosa shield fern, moonwort, the ternate grape fern, the rattlesnake fern and the adder's tongue.

THE ZOOLOGY OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

Concerning the former presence of great numbers of wild animals in this county, Professor Williamson observes that "the dense wilderness of Auglaize county, like the other counties of northern Ohio, was stocked with all the animals, reptiles and birds peculiar to the western wilderness. So numerous were the deer, elk, bear, turkey and ducks that they constituted the main part of the sustenance of the Indians. Up to the time of the departure of the Shawnee Indians (in 1832) the larger animals were so numerous that deer, bear and wolves were killed within half a mile of Wapakoneta." The professor then sets out that the American black bear was an inhabitant of the county as late as 1850. No other species of the bear is known to have inhabited this section of the state. The skin of the animal was highly prized by the Indians and the pioneers for robes and wearing apparel, and his flesh was considered a great delicacy. When cooked it has the flavor of fresh pork.

Further details along this line have it that the wolf was formerly quite common in this and adjoining counties and so annoying were these creatures that a bounty was paid by the state for their scalps, this bounty at different times varying from \$3 to \$6. Until the bears and wolves were exterminated the pioneers found it difficult to raise hogs or sheep. The wolf disappeared from Auglaize county about 1854, the settlement of the county by that time having pretty effectually routed him from his dens and fastnesses. The fox is still occasionally found here. Formerly and for many years fox hunting was a favorite sport throughout this region and even yet a fox drive occasionally is "staged" in the eastern part of the county where Reynard finds precarious refuge in the hollows, but his day is about over. It is the gray fox that is the survivor here. The red fox, formerly quite numerous, was more noted for his depredations upon the poultry yards of the pioneers. His fur was of considerable value and led to an additional interest in the chase which eventually

wrought his local extermination. The gray fox is a near relative of the red fox and is noted for the craftiness with which it seeks its prey. The last panther in this county was killed about 1850. These animals were quite numerous hereabouts in the days of the wilderness, when the forests were almost impenetrable, and were greatly feared by the Indians and the settlers. Its hunting habit was to hide upon a branch of a tree and launch itself upon whatever prey might pass beneath. The weird, human-like quality of the "painter's" cry at night, like that of a child in distress, made its screech a fearsome thing and when one was heard anywhere near a settlement a hunt would be organized and the "varmint" exterminated. It is narrated in the older chronicles that two panthers were slain in Pusheta township in 1833; one in Wayne township in that same year, and one in Salem township in 1835. The crafty lynx was much valued for his fur and one of the most popular of the winter sports of the pioneers was lynx hunting. These animals were quite numerous throughout this region and were a source of considerable revenue to those who made a business of hunting and trapping. It is said that the last lynx in this county was killed in Washington township in 1867. The wild cats (also of the lynx family) were not wholly exterminated until somewhat later. They formerly were quite numerous hereabouts and during the pioneer period large numbers of them were slain by hunters or taken by trappers. They were not so large as the lynx, more slender in build and lighter in color and their fur was not as valuable as that of their cousins, the true lynx.

Though the native lynx long ago passed from this region, a "stray" member of this offensive branch of the cat family was killed in Auglaize county as late as in the winter of 1918. Where he had come from and whither bound are matters of conjecture, but old hunters gave it as their opinion that he had wandered down from Michigan. The carcass was taken to Wapakoneta, whence it was sent to a taxidermist to be mounted and was for some time on display in an

Auglaize street shop window, where it attracted the interested attention of many. This Canada lynx (*felis Canadensis*) was killed on the John Burk farm in Moulton township on January 4, 1918, by a party of hunters numbering twenty or more, among them having been the following well known farmers of that community: Albert Adams, T. L. Ramsey, Wesley Brorein, Albert Brincefield, Nate Brincefield, John Ramsey and Charles Wheeler.

The details of the capture of this feline straggler were set out in the issue of the *Auglaize Republican* of Thursday, January 10, 1918, as follows: "When a report came to this office last Friday from Buckland that a Canada lynx had been killed in the woods near Glynwood few people credited the story. It has been forty years or more since an animal of that character has been killed in this county and it seemed incredible that one could have strayed this far south of the northern woods without being seen by hunters. However, the carcass of the lynx was brought to Wapakoneta Friday afternoon by Albert Adams, who is credited with having shot the animal out of a tree in the John Burk woods. The lynx weighed only twenty-four pounds, but this gives very little idea of its size, as it was little less than skin and bones. It measured six feet in length and twenty inches in height. Its color was gray, with black stripes along the back, and it had the general appearance of a huge cat with the exception of the tufted ears, which gave it the distinctive mark of the lynx. With its long and sharp teeth and ferocious appearance, even in death, it would have given the stoutest heart a tremor of fear to have met it alone in the forest."

The animal's carcass was put up at auction and was sold to the highest bidder, Charles Wheeler, who sent it to a taxidermist at Brookville, Ohio, to be mounted and he now has it at his home near Buckland. According to the story of the hunters, the track of the "varmint" was first seen by a number of persons in Logan township after some neighboring farmers had reported the loss of poultry, but it was not until Wesley Brorein had discovered that some animal had

taken toll of his flock of geese that chase was given. The lynx was first seen and shot at by Alva Brincefield on the Charles F. Herbst farm. Although wounded it ran into the Burk woods, where it sought refuge in a scruboak tree. There, a few minutes later Albert Adams shot the animal.

Atwater, in his History of Ohio, says that "we once had the bison and elk in vast numbers all over Ohio." The bison, or buffalo, had been driven from this region by the Indians before the coming of the white man, but the elk persisted until the days of settlement, and many specimens of the antlers of the elk have been turned up in excavations for ditches in this county. Deer formerly were so numerous throughout this region that the flesh of the animal constituted a large part of the sustenance of the Indians and pioneers. The variety most common to this section was the red deer, the weight of which varied from 150 to 200 pounds. With the settlement of the country they naturally sought safer feeding grounds and early in the '60s were wholly absent from this county. Of other creatures of the wild common to this section in the days before the clearing of the forests and the cultivation of the land deprived them of their natural habitat, Professor Williamson names the weasel, the mink, the otter (the last of which was taken on the Auglaize two miles below Wapakoneta in 1872), the sunk, valuable for his fur and still persisting in small numbers here; the beaver, which was quite common to the waters hereabouts in other days, but which became extinct in the section now comprised within this county about 1833; the porcupine, quite common in pioneer days hereabouts, but now extinct here; the groundhog, or woodchuck, which still persists; the squirrel family, five varieties of which are named, these being the fox squirrel, gray and black squirrels, the red squirrel, the ground squirrel and the flying squirrel, numbers of which still persist here, the red squirrel probably being the most numerous. During the days of the pioneers the great woodlands of this county literally swarmed with squirrels and even up to as late a period as the '50s there were summers when apparent squirrel "in-

vasions'' menaced and sometimes utterly destroyed the corn crops of the settlers, all sorts of measures and expedients being resorted to to frighten the rodents away, for the mere gun of the hunter was powerless against the veritable hordes of the voracious creatures. The wood hare, or gray rabbit, persists in numbers here, though of course not offering anything like the field for the huntsman offered in former days and hunting for the market is no longer a lucrative practice. The muskrat still persists along the Auglaize and St. Marys rivers and about the Grand Reservoir, but the value of its fur has been its undoing, and trappers have practically exterminated the creature in this county. The opossum, the common mole and rats and mice are mentioned as other creatures common to this region.

A game preserve of 1,100 acres in St. Marys and Washington townships, southeast of St. Marys, has been closed against hunting of all sorts. The landowners within this area have leased their lands as a preserve to the state department of conservation, and the preserve is being maintained under the direction of Ora Hinton, local game protector.

BIRDS, FISHES, INSECTS AND REPTILES.

In a list compiled from an official catalogue, Professor Williamson's review carries also the name of nearly every resident or migratory bird of Auglaize county, including the robin, the wood thrush, the olive-backed thrush, catbird, brown thrush, bluebird, gnatcatcher, tufted titmouse or chick, white-bellied nuthatch (sapsucker), brown creeper, long-billed marsh wren, brown lark, prothonotary warbler, summer warbler, black-throated green warbler, caerulean warbler, Blackburnian warbler, yellow red-poll warbler, water wagtail, redstart, scarlet tanager, summer redbird, barn swallow, cave swallow, martin, red-eyed vireo, yellow throated vireo, butcher bird, song sparrow, snowbird, tree sparrow, chipping sparrow, field sparrow, English sparrow, fox sparrow, indigo bird, cardinal redbird, chewink, red-winged black-

bird, orchard oriole, Baltimore oriole, crow blackbird, raven, common crow, blue jay, kingbird, bee martin, great-crested flycatcher, pewee, wood pewee, whippoorwill, nighthawk, chimney swift, ruby-throated hummingbird, belted kingfisher, black-billed cuckoo, hairy woodpecker, downy woodpecker, yellow-bellied woodpecker, flicker, barn owl, great horned owl, screech owl, long-eared owl, short-eared owl, great gray owl, barred owl, snowy owl, saw-whet owl, pigeon hawk, chicken hawk, sparrow hawk, bald eagle, turkey buzzard, wild pigeon, Carolina dove, common wild turkey, pheasant, quail, kildeer plover, American woodcock, great blue heron, white crane, coot, white-fronted goose, wild goose, mallard, pintail, widgeon, blue-winged teal, wood duck, redhead, pochard, canvasback duck, dipper duck and pied-billed dabchick. Some of these varieties will be recognized as now extinct here.

From the official state zoological report the following catalogue of the fishes of Auglaize county has been compiled: Mud-eel, gar pike, yellow catfish, blue catfish, white sucker, club sucker, stone roller, blunt-nosed minnow, carp (German), hickory shad, common sunfish, blue sunfish, rock bass (goggle eye), large-mouthed black bass, yellow perch, ringed perch and blue pike. The state maintains an extensive fish hatchery in the Grand Reservoir.

Under the head of reptiles there are listed the several varieties of the four orders of reptilia, turtles, lizards, serpents and frogs, with the observation that "the reptiles of Auglaize county at the present time are not nearly so numerous as they were in 1830. Many species have entirely disappeared since that time." There are four varieties of turtles mentioned, the snapping turtle, the mud turtle, the box turtle and the soft-shelled variety, of which latter it is said that it is "the most delicious and nourishing of the fresh-water varieties." Of snakes there are mentioned the rattlesnake, the massassauga (a variety of the rattler), the constrictor or racer, the milk snake, the common gray garter snake, the striped garter and the water snake. Three varieties of lizards are enumerated, the ground lizard, or ground

puppy; the blue-tailed skink and the water dog. Six varieties of the batrachea are mentioned, the bull frog, the green spring frog, the common spring frog, the wood frog, the common tree frog and the American toad.

With reference to the entomology of the county a list of the insects of the county is given, with credit to the catalogue of such creatures compiled by William Kayser, entomologist, this list setting out the scientific names of no fewer than twenty-eight of the varieties of the hymenoptera, 300 or more of the lepidoptera, about forty of the diptera, 400 or more of the coleoptera, fifteen of the orthoptera and thirty of the neuroptera.

Before passing from this subject it is worthy of mention that numerous evidences have been revealed within the confines of this county of the existence here in prehistoric times of the mastodon, fossil remains of this gigantic creature having been turned up in several different localities in the county. The first skeleton was discovered in the fall of 1870 by laborers who were excavating a ditch through Muchinippe swamp, two and one-half miles east of St. Johns, in Clay township. The bones were found in a posture natural to a quadruped when sinking in the mire and some of them were in an excellent state of preservation. Similar remains have been found in Washington, Duchouquet, Wayne, Union, Salem and Pusheta townships. In 1889 a head of the prehistoric giant beaver (*Castoroides Ohioensis*) was uncovered on section 29 of Washington township while workmen were draining a bog there. An investigation revealed a bed of humous resting on a bed of gravel of excellent quality for road making and in later excavations the ancient habitation of the giant rodent was disclosed, a "house" about eight feet square and between three and four feet in height.

CHAPTER II.

THE DAYS OF INDIAN OCCUPANCY.

There has been a great deal of controversy concerning the origin of the aboriginal races of America known to us as Indians—so misnamed by Christopher Columbus and his contemporaries because they were taken to be natives of India. The Indians are now generally believed by the best authorities to be descended from the races of Asia. One authority says of them: "They are now generally believed to be a Mongolian people separated from Asia by the comparatively recent subsidence of the 'Pacific continent.' " Another authority says: "By some ethnologists the American Indians are considered an aboriginal or single stock; by others a mixture of Mongolian, Polynesian and Caucasian types; and by others as derived from the grafting of Old World races on a true American race." Some authorities think the ancestors of the Indians may have drifted across the Pacific from Asia, or entered this continent by way of Behring strait. Be that as it may be. Where he came from or how he got here are hardly questions for such a review as this. The Indian, once dominant throughout this region, is gone. Of whatever original ethnological stock, his was an arrested and non-progressive race and in the struggle with the white man and the latter's civilization he was worsted and required to withdraw.

As Cowen's "Ethnological History of Ohio" (1903—Ohio Centennial Anniversary Celebration) says, "those who preceded the present occupants were the mere caretakers for the real possessors whose coming these broad savannas, far reaching forests and teeming hills plainly foreshadowed as the future domain of a mighty empire. They left nothing

behind them which in the slightest degree influenced the character, laws or customs of the present occupants. . . . The history of these people, though interesting in itself, is a thing apart from our history. True, they occupied the territory, but they never possessed it in any true sense of possession. It is only by agricultural labor that man can be said to appropriate or possess the soil, and the Indian lived by the products of the chase. He was marked for destruction by his fixed and ineradicable prejudices, his fierce and ungovernable passions, his vices, and still more perhaps by his savage virtues. The coming of the white man with his peculiar civilization was the death knell of the Indian, for it had come to be an axiom of that civilization that barbarism has no rights which it is bound to respect, and that axiom was the rule and guide of the white man's conquest. So that the Indian has gone the way of the mastodon, the cliff dweller and the mound builder. He has sped away like a bird on the wing, leaving behind him no memorials of his passage save his dishonored graves and his musical names which linger on mountain, lake and river to tell the story of his sojourn and his exit."

THE MELANCHOLY MUSINGS OF SPRAGUE.

To that generation in Ohio, now fast passing, that "grew up" on the McGuffey Readers, the melancholy musings of Sprague readily will recur: "Not many generations ago where you now sit encircled by all that exalts and embellishes civilized life, the rank thistle nodded in the wind and the wild fox dug his hole unscared. Here lived and loved another race of beings. Beneath the same sun that rolls over your head, the Indian hunter pursued the panting deer; gazing on the same moon that smiles for you, the Indian lover wooed his dusky mate. Here the wigwam blaze beamed on the tender and helpless and the council fire glared on the wise and daring. Now they dipped their noble limbs in your sedgy lakes, now they paddled their light canoes along your rocky shores. Here they warred; the echoing whoop, the bloody

grapple, the defying death song, all were here; and when the tiger strife was over, here curled the smoke of peace. * * * As a race they have withered from the land. Their arrows are broken, their springs are dried up, their cabins are in the dust. Their council fire has long since gone out on the shore, and their war cry is fast fading to the untrodden west. Slowly and sadly they climb the distant mountains and read their doom in the setting sun. They are shrinking before the mighty tide which is pressing them away; they must soon hear the roar of the last wave which will settle over them forever. Ages hence the inquisitive white man, as he stands beside some growing city, will ponder on the structure of their disturbed remains and wonder to what manner of persons they belonged. They will live only in the songs and chronicles of their exterminators. Let these be faithful to their rude virtues as men and pay due tribute to their unhappy fate as a people."

The fact ought not to be overlooked, however, in any sentimental retrospection regarding the long departed red-skin of the Midwest country or in any review of the period of his stormy conflicts, his defeats and his gradual extinction, that his was not the type of the Indians of Longfellow, mellowed and humanized by stately meter, nor of the gentlemen redskins of Cooper's fabrications. Here was the real Indian, bitter, cruel, vindictive—a barrier to the progress of civilization and the enemy of peaceful society. Yet, in the language of Elmore Barce ("The Land of the Miamis"), there is something of pathos in the Indian's complete obliteration.

"Thus vanishes the red men," says he. "In their day, however, they had been the undoubted lords of the plain, following their long trails in single file over the great prairies and camping with their dogs, women and children in the pleasant groves and along the many streams. They were savages and left no enduring temple or lofty fane behind them, but their names still cling to many streams, groves and towns and a few facts gleaned from their history cannot fail to be of interest to us who inherit their ancient patrimony."

THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL SUPREMACY.

Though long gone from the haunts he once dominated hereabout, the Indian left many memories—not all of which are bad. His was a distinctive part in the history of the region now comprised within the confines of Auglaize county and his memory is perpetuated in our geographical nomenclature. Here was long his favorite hunting ground. It hardly could have been otherwise. As fair a land as the sun shines on, it occupies the summit of the divide which separates the waters of the North and the waters of the South, and thus the Indian—with a narrow and not toilsome portage—could paddle his canoe north to the Lakes or south to the Ohio and profit by the rich hunting in between. And thus he came to establish his villages here. Here on the banks of the beautiful Auglaize, where the white man's county seat later was erected, the warlike Shawnees established their great council house and here the mighty of all the Midwest tribes were wont to foregather in fateful deliberation. When the white man came with desire in his heart to possess these lands, this divide and the waterways leading both to the north and to the south made this the inevitable battle ground and trampling armies—the armies of the white man and the armies of the red man—here contended for years in the racial struggle for supremacy. And the white man won, for his was the greater need; he had given hostage to posterity and must not fail.

Then came the final act, the red man's acceptance of the terms of dispossession, and here again Auglaize county became historic ground, for it was within the confines of what is now this county that the treaties were negotiated which gave to our common domain the remaining fragment of land claimed by the Indians in Ohio (save certain reservations), lands which now form the greater and richer part of Indiana and lands which form much of the state of Illinois. No wonder successive generations of school children in this rich domain during the hundred years and more since then have

been taught to honor the name of St. Marys town, for it was here that this domain was opened to the uses of civilization.

BRIEF REVIEW OF THE INDIAN WARS.

Over this divide and through these divergent valleys the French soldiers with their Indian allies marched from the north against the English (who had come up from the Ohio) and their Indian allies gathered at the English trading post and fort at the mouth of the Pickawillany (Loramie) creek, a few miles north of the present city of Piqua, then the head of low water transport for supplies up the Miami, and the battle of Pickawillany with the destruction of that fort by the French in 1752 precipitated the French and Indian war which was not terminated until ten years later, when, by the treaty of Paris, in 1763, the English claim to all lands east of the Mississippi was confirmed. Even prior to this the French had a line of posts and forts down these waterways, two of which—Ft. Auglaize, just above the present city of Wapakoneta, then the head of transport on the Auglaize river, and the other at St. Marys, then the head of transport on the river of that name—were within the confines of what is now Auglaize county. Historic ground, indeed! It was the French who thus named our two chief streams, St. Marys in honor of their sainted patroness and the Au (*eau*) Glaize for its then crystalline clearness, “glassy water.” Francis Duchouquet was in charge of the trading post at Ft. Auglaize and his name was honored when later the permanent settlers established place names hereabout and is thus perpetuated in the name of the county’s central township. A contemporary map of the Wayne campaign along the Maumee in 1794 gives the name of Grand Glaize to the Auglaize river. According to the reminiscences of Col. John Johnston, the old Indian agent at Piqua, the Shawnee name of the St. Marys river was “Cokotheke sepe,” or Kettle river. On Hough’s map it is marked “Ke-ke-ong-se-pe.” The Miami name of the river, according to Dunn, is “Mah-may-i-wah-se-pe-way,” or

Sturgeon creek, the reference being to the fact that the sturgeon formerly resorted to the Maumee and its tributaries in great numbers in the spawning season.

The Miami Indians were in possession here at the beginning of historic times in this region, later holding peaceful possession alongside the Wyandots and the Ottawas to the north and with friendly intercourse with the Delawares and the Pottawattomies to the west. With the establishment of white settlements in the Sciota valley the Shawnees were driven from their chillicothe, or village, in what is now Ross county and settled on the beautiful hunting grounds on the Mad river and on the Little Miami, in what is now Clark and Greene counties, establishing along the latter stream a new chillicothe at the point now called Oldtown, in the near vicinity of the city of Xenia, and it was here that the great Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, were born and reared. When presently routed from that point the Shawnees came farther north and settled in the Piqua country, whence in 1782 they were driven by Gen. George Rogers Clark, the man who gave to America the great Northwest Territory, who destroyed not only their village there but proceeded on up the creek (Pickawillany, or Loramie) and destroyed the trading post that had been established there at the head of high water transport by the French trader Peter Loramie in 1769.

Loramie, it is narrated, hated the Americans with an implacable hatred and from his post at the point which still bears his name, in Shelby county, just over the southern border of Auglaize county, had been inciting the Indians, whose friendship he had gained, to incursions against the settlers who then were beginning to come in from the south. It is said that Loramie, thus dispossessed and with his trading post laid in ashes, emigrated with that detachment of the Shawnees which first sought settlement at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers, where most of the rest of the nation eventually joined them. For further details concerning Loramie and Pickawillany the reader is referred to interesting reviews along those lines carried in Vols. VIII and XVII of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Publications.

There has been some confusion over the Indian name, Piqua, which, like many other names, was used in a sort of general way and was applied (like "chillicothe," or village) to more than one locality. It is said that the word signifies "a man formed out of ashes," and tradition has it that in a far away time the braves of the Shawnees were seated around their campfire when a great puffing was observed among the ashes and suddenly a full grown man stepped forth—the first of the Piqua tribe—a sort of phoenix of another mythology. It is said that the first Piqua was located at the mouth of the Sciota river, and when the Shawnees were driven thence up into the Mad River country they established another Piqua in these latter hunting grounds. Driven from there they established their last Piqua in what is now Miami county, and this name was adopted by the whites when formal settlement was effected there. A third Piqua farther up the Sciota gave to Pickaway county its name, the French spelling of the name being changed to conform to the American notion.

Driven from Piqua, the Shawnees again took up their march and it was then they came into possession in what is now Auglaize county, establishing their new chillicothe or piqua at the site of the old Wyandot village, Wapakoneta, at the head of navigation on the Auglaize, and there erected their council house. Quaskey (Blackhoof) was then their chief. And here these "Arabs of the wilderness" remained until 1832, a tenure of just one-half a century, when they ceded away their claim to their last reservation and were transported beyond the Mississippi. But during that half century much history was made and the territory now comprised within the confines of Auglaize county was the scene of many a stirring incident.

COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY OF THE SHAWNEES.

From an illuminating monograph on the history of the Shawnee tribe of Indians prepared by C. C. Royce, of the bureau of ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, "to be read at the approaching centennial anniversary of the victory of Gen.

George Rogers Clark over that unfortunate people" in 1880 much interesting information is gained regarding the people who held until 1831 the lands comprising much of what is now Auglaize county. "The Shawnees were the Bedouins, and I may almost say the Ishmaelites of the North American tribes," Mr. Royce stated in his introduction and then his paper continued as follows:

"As wanderers they were without rivals among their race, and as fomentors of discord and war between themselves and their neighbors their genius was marked. Their original home is not, with any great measure of certainty, known. It is altogether improbable that it ever will be. Many theories on the subject have been already advanced, each with a greater or less degree of plausibility. More doubtless will, from time to time, be offered but, after all, the general public will be restricted to a choice of probabilities and each must accept for himself that which to his mind shall seem most satisfactory and convincing.

"First—In the year 1608, Capt. John Smith, of the Jamestown colony, in Virginia, proceeded upon an exploring expedition up the Chesapeake Bay. In the course of this expedition he encountered and held communication with numerous tribes of Indians then occupying the shores of the bay and its immediate vicinity. All these Indians lived in continual dread of a tribe known to them by the name of 'Massawomekes.' In the language of Smith: 'Beyond the mountains whence is the head of the river Patawomeke (Potomac), the savages report, inhabit their most mortal enemies, the Massawomekes, upon a great salt water, which by all likelihood is either some part of Canada; some great lake or some inlet of some sea that falleth into the South Sea. These Massawomekes are a great nation and very populous.' Smith further relates that the other tribes, especially the Pottawomekes, the Patuxents, the Sasquesahannocks and the Tockwoughes, were continually tormented by them, complained bitterly of their cruelty and were very importunate with him that he should free them from their assaults.

This Smith determined to do, and, had not his project been vetoed by the Colonial Council, the history and identity of this people would not now, in all likelihood, be enshrouded in such a mantle of doubt.

“He did, in fact, encounter seven canoes full of them at the head of Chesapeake Bay, with whom he had a conference by signs, and remarks that their implements of war and other utensils showed them to be greatly superior to the Virginia Indians, as also their dexterity in their small boats made of the bark of trees, sewed with bark and well ‘luted’ with gum, gave evidence that they lived upon some great water. When they departed for their homes, the Massawomekes went by the way of what Smith denominates Willoughbys river, and which his map and description show to be the modern Bush river which is on the west side of the bay and trends in a northwest direction. The map accompanying the London edition of 1629 of Smith’s Travels located the Massawomekes on the south shore of a supposed large body of water in a northwest direction, and distant from the headwaters of the Patawomeke (Potomac) river some twenty-five leagues. This, making reasonable allowance for the discrepancies in topography, places them without doubt along the south shore of Lake Erie, with an eastern limit not remote from the present city of Erie, Pa., and extending thence westward.

“I am aware that at least two eminent authorities (Galatin and Bancroft), whom it would almost seem the height of presumption for me to dispute, have assumed that the Massawomekes and the Five Nations were identical. The more closely I have examined the evidence, the more thoroughly am I convinced of their error in this assumption. At that date the most westerly of the Five Nations—the Seneca—was not in possession of the country west of the Genesee river. Extending from that neighborhood westward to and beyond the Niagara river and along the southeast shore of Lake Erie, the country was occupied by a numerous nation known to history as the Attiwandaronk or Neutral nation, whose power was broken and the tribes destroyed or dispersed by the Five

Nations, but not until 1651, more than forty years subsequent to Smith's observations. To reach the country of the Five Nations from Chesapeake Bay, an almost due north course, or that of the Susquehanna river, would have been the natural and most convenient route to pursue. A route leading beyond the mountains, in which the Potomac river had its sources, would have been neither a natural nor convenient one for reaching the shores of Lake Ontario and vicinity, then the country of the Five Nations. It is highly improbable that war parties of this great Iroquois confederacy should have followed such a route in the face of the fact that the only tribes living along the line of the more direct route held them in great fear and would gladly have allowed them to pass without molestation.

"I assume, then, that the villages of the Massawomekes occupied the south and southwest shore of Lake Erie and that they controlled the intermediate country to the Alleghany mountains as a hunting range, frequently extending their war and predatory excursions to the territory of the tribes east of the mountains and along the upper portion of Chesapeake bay.

"Second—From the accounts of early French travelers and the relations of the Jesuit missionaries, we are advised of the existence during the first half of the Seventeenth century of a nation of Indians who were called by the Hurons, 'Eries;' by the Five Nations, 'Rique,' and by the French, the 'Chat' or 'Cat' nation. According to Sagard's History of Canada, published in 1636, the name of Chat or Cat is thus accounted for: 'There is in this vast region a country which we call the Cat Nation, by reason of their cats, a sort of small wolf or leopard found there, from the skins of which the natives make robes, bordered and ornamented with tails.' This nation occupied a tract of country on the south shore of Lake Erie, identical with that to which I have assigned the Massawomekes of Smith. They were visited as early as 1626, according to the Jesuit relations, by two missionaries, Lagard and d' Allyon, who made an unsuccessful attempt to establish a

mission among them; or did the Jesuits, with the constant zeal and persistence so characteristic of them, ever succeed in obtaining a foothold with the tribe. At this time and for many years thereafter they are spoken of as very numerous and powerful. A war having broken out between them and the Five Nations, the Eries were utterly overthrown and dispersed about the year 1655. From this date we find no mention of their existence as a nation.

“Schoolcraft, in his bulky and ill-assorted work on the History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes, adopts the theory that the Eries and Neuters were one and the same people. That he is certainly mistaken, I hardly think there is room for reasonable doubt. The evidence of his error is abundant in the Jesuit relations, but I have only space to cite the testimony of Father Breboul, who visited the Neutral nation in 1640 and remarked that only four towns of the latter nation lay east of the Niagara river, ranging from east to west, toward the Eriehonous or Chats. Also in speaking of the Niagara river he says: ‘It falls into Lake Erie or of the Cat tribe, and then it enters the Neutral grounds.’ Bressani, who spent some years in the country, also in his ‘Breve Relatione,’ as is remarked by Shea, places the Neuters north of Lake Erie and the Eries south.

“Third—Cadwallader Colden published the History of the Five Nations in London in 1747. He begins with the traditional period of their history. Tradition, with Indians as with white people, is often utterly unreliable and not infrequently totally incredible. The traditions of the events immediately preceding European settlement, from the recency of their occurrence and their consequent freshness in the Indian mind, notwithstanding the average tendency to exaggeration and boastfulness, may however, be esteemed as not wholly unworthy of confidence in the general facts related, regardless of their highly colored details. These traditions all concur in the assertion that the Five Nations, a short time previous to the French settlement in Canada, lived near the present site of Montreal; that as a result of a war

with the Adirondacks they were forced to leave their own country and fly to the banks of the lakes on which they subsequently lived, where the war was at intervals renewed and was still in progress at the time of the French occupation of Canada. Here they applied themselves to increasing their proficiency in the use of arms, and in order to raise the spirits of their people the sachems, "turned them against the Satanas, a less warlike nation that then lived on the banks of the lakes and who in the course of a few years were subdued and driven out of their country.'

"Colden doubtless borrows this relation from the account of Bacquerville de la Potherie, who was in Canada several years anterior to 1700 and whose history of America was published about 1720. Charlevoix also has a similar relation. Both these authors, doubtless, as Judge Force has remarked, borrowed from the narrative of Nicholas Perot, who lived among the Indians for more than thirty years subsequent to 1665 and who enjoyed their confidence to an unusual degree. He relates that the Iroquois had their original home about Montreal and Three Rivers; that they fled from the Algonquins to Lake Erie, where lived the Chaouanous, who waged war against them and drove them to the shores of Lake Ontario. That after many years of war against the Chaouanous and their allies they withdrew to Carolina, where they now are. That the Iroquois (Five Nations) after being obliged to quit Lake Erie withdrew to Lake Ontario, and that after having chased the Chaouanous and their allies toward Carolina they have ever since remained there in that vicinity. Here then, we have in the earliest history of the country the names of three tribes or nations who, by the accounts of different and widely separated travelers, occupied the same region of the territory, viz.:

"First—The 'Massawomekes' of Smith, who lived upon some great lake beyond the mountains in which the Potomac river has its sources, and which Smith's map shows to be in the location of Lake Erie.

“Second—The ‘Eries,’ or ‘Chats,’ of the Jesuit relations, who occupied the entire south shore of Lake Erie, and

“Third—The ‘Satanas’ of Colden (who in the vocabulary preceding his work gives the name as the equivalent of Shaonous) and the “‘Chanouanous’ of Perot who lived on Lake Erie and, from the text of the narrative, evidently on the south shore to the west of the Five Nations.

“By all the accounts given of these people, they were, comparatively speaking, very numerous and powerful. Each occupied and controlled a large region of territory in the same general locality; each had, as far as history and tradition can throw any light upon the subject, long been the occupant thereof. The fact that neither of these authorities speaks of more than one nation occupying this region of country and neither seems to have had any knowledge or tradition of any other nation having done so, coupled with the improbability that three numerous and warlike nations should, within the historic period, have occupied so limited a region as the south shore of Lake Erie—and one which by water communication would have been so easily accessible for each to the other—without any account or tradition having survived of their intercourse, conflicts and destruction of one another, to my mind is little less than convincing evidence of the fact that three such distinct nations never had a cotemporaneous existence, and that the Massawomekes, Eries and Satanias, or Chaouanous, were one and the same people.

“I am aware that the Chaouanous, or Shawnees as we now denominate them, speak the Algonquin tongue and that the Eries have ever been linguistically classed as of Iroquois stock, but of the latter fact there seems to be no more convincing proof than a passage in the Jesuit relations of 1648, asserting that the Cat nation have a number of permanent towns * * * ‘and they have the same language with our Hurons.’ The Jesuits never succeeded in establishing a mission among the Eries, their intercourse with them was almost nothing, and they have left us no vocabularies by which their linguistic stock can be determined. I regard therefore

the single volunteer remark as to their having the same language with the Hurons as having less weight in the scale of probabilities than the accumulated evidence of their identity with the Massawomekes and Chaounous.

“Their identity having been assumed and the Eries having, by all accounts, been conquered and dispersed about 1655, it remains to trace the remnant in their wanderings across the face of the country. This is perhaps the most difficult and most unsatisfactory task that enters into the consideration of the subject. I could not, even were it desirable, in the space allotted to such a communication, give more than a few of the most general facts. To do otherwise would occupy much more time and space than my present object would justify or require. At this point I may remark that there is a manuscript map still in existence in Holland which accompanied a report made to the States General in 1614 or 1616, of the discoveries in New Netherlands, upon which a nation of Indians called ‘Sawwoaneu’ is marked as living on the east bank of the Delaware river. De Laet also, in the Leyden edition of his history, published in 1640, enumerates the ‘Sawanoos’ as one of the tribes then inhabiting the Delaware river.

“It is of course impossible at this late day, in the absence of further data, to determine whether this tribe, which seems to have been known on the Delaware for more than a quarter of a century, bears any relationship to the modern Shawnees. It is not impossible that in the course of the conflicts between the ‘Satanas’ and the Five Nations a body of the former may have become segregated from their friends and have terminated their wanderings by a settlement on the Delaware. The probabilities seem to be unfavorable to this hypothesis. The solution is more likely to be found in the fact that the word ‘Sawanoo’ signified southern. The Delaware river was at that date known as South river, and ‘Sawanoo’ or Southern may have been a sort of general term applied to Indians residing on that river.

“The Eries after their overthrow do not again appear in the contemporary relations or maps under that name except

as a destroyed nation. Their former location is shown on De l' Isle's maps of 1700 and 1703, Senex's map of 1710 and numerous others. The survivors being driven from their ancient homes, their villages and property destroyed, and deprived of the lake as a principal source of food supply, were forced to resort to the chase more exclusively as a means of subsistence. These things would have a tendency to divide the tribe into small hunting parties and to encourage the wandering propensities so often remarked of the Shawnees. In 1669 we find La Salle, who was at that time among the Iroquois at the head of Lake Ontario, projecting a voyage of discovery down the Ohio river, acknowledging the welcome present from the Iroquois of a Shawanee prisoner, who told him that the Ohio would be reached in six weeks and that he would guide him to it. This would indicate that the Shawnees or a portion of them at that date were familiar with the Ohio country and probably residents of it.

"Marquette, who was at La Pointe on Lake Superior in 1670, writes that the Illinois have given him information of a nation called 'Chaouanous' living thirty days journey to the southeast of their country. In the Jesuit relations of 1671-72 the name of 'Chaouanong' appears as another name for 'Ontouagannha,' which is said in the relations of 1661-62 to mean 'where they do not know how to speak,' but their location is not given. De l' Isle's map of 1700, however, places the 'Ontouagannha' on the headwaters of the Santee and the Great Pedee rivers in South Caroline, and the same location is marked on Senex's map of ten years later as occupied by the villages of 'Chaouanous.' In 1672 Father Marquette in passing down the Mississippi river remarks upon reaching the mouth of the Ohio that 'This river comes from the country on the east inhabited by the people called Chaouanous in such numbers that they reckon as many as twenty-three villages in one district and fifteen in another lying quite near each other. They are by no means warlike and are the people the Iroquois go far to seek in order to wage an unprovoked war upon them.'

“In 1680, as related by Father Membre in his account of the adventures of La Salle’s party at Fort Crevecoeur, the ‘Illinois,’ who were allies of the ‘Chaouanous,’ were warned by one of the latter tribe who was returning home from a trip to the ‘Illinois’ country but turned back to advise them of the discovery of an Iroquois army that had already entered their territory. During the same year a ‘Chaouenou’ chief who had 150 warriors and lived on a great river emptying into the Ohio, sent to La Salle to form an alliance. On the map accompanying Marquette’s journal published in 1681, the ‘Chaounous’ are placed on the Ohio river near the Mississippi, while on his original manuscript map—a fac simile of which will be found in French’s Historical Collections of Louisiana—they are located in black, unexplored region a long distance to the east of the Mississippi, probably meant to be in the neighborhood of the Ohio river, although that river is not laid down upon the map, and its course was not definitely known to Marquette.

“In 1682 M. de La Salle, after exploring the Mississippi river to the gulf, formally took possession of the country from the mouth of the river to the Ohio, on the eastern side, with the consent of the ‘Chaouanous,’ ‘Chichachas’ and other people dwelling therein. At page 502 of the third volume of Margry it is recorded that ‘Joutel, the companion of La Salle, in his last voyage says, in speaking of the Shawanoes in Illinois: They have been there only since they were drawn thither by M. de La Salle; formerly they lived on the borders of Virginia and the English colonies.’ Father Gravier led an expedition down the Mississippi to its mouth in the year 1700. He speaks of the Ohio river as having three branches, one coming from the northeast called the St. Joseph or Ouibachie, the second from the country of the Iroquois called the Ohio, the third on which the ‘Chaouanoua’ live coming from the south-southwest. This later was evidently the Tennessee. On De l’ Isle’s map of 1700 previously alluded to, the ‘Outonigauha’ are placed on the headwaters of the great rivers of South Carolina and the ‘Chiononons’ on the Tennessee river

near its mouth. It appears, however, from the report of an investigating committee of the Pennsylvannia Assembly made in 1755 that at least a portion of this band of the Shawnees or 'Outonigauha' living in South Carolina, who had been made uneasy by their neighbors, came with about sixty families to Conestoga about the year 1698 by leave of the Sesquehanna Indians who then lived there. A few of the band had about four years previously, at the solicitation of the 'Minsis,' been allowed to settle on the Delaware river among the latter. Other straggling parties continued from time to time for a number of years to join their brethren in Pennsylvania until they finally became among the most numerous and powerful tribes in the states.

"In 1700 William Penn visited the chiefs of the band at Conestoga and in the same year the Council of Maryland resolved 'that the friendship of the Susquehannock and Shawnee Indians be secured by making a treaty with them, they seeming to be of considerable moment and not to be slighted.' The map of North America by John Senex in 1710 indicates a village of 'Chaouanous' on the headwaters of South Carolina, but apparently places the main body along the upper waters of the Tennessee river, a short distance west of the Appalachian mountains. This would make them very close neighbors of the Cherokees and probably places them too high up the river. Ten years later (1720) a map of the north parts of America, by H. Moll, does not indicate the presence of any 'Chaouanous' on the Tennessee river, but shows their former territory to be occupied by the 'Charakeys.' This corresponds with the statement in Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee that M. Charleville, a French trader near New Orleans, came among the Shawnees then (1714) inhabiting the country upon the Cumberland river and traded with them, and that about this period the Cherokees and Chickasaws expelled them from their numerous villages upon the lower Cumberland (there denominated the Sault) river, the designation of 'Savannah Old Settlement,' indicating the probable abandonment at least several years previously of the last Shawnee

village in the Cumberland and Tennessee valleys, in their gradual withdrawal to the north side of the Ohio river.

“As late as 1764, however, according to Ramsey, a straggling band of them moved from Green river in Kentucky, where they had been residing (though as I surmise, only temporarily), to the Wabash country. It seems also that at some period anterior to 1740 a band of ‘Chaouanous,’ wanderers in all likelihood from the Cumberland and Tennessee country, had lived for a time within two leagues from the fort at Mobile, Ala., for in that year M. de Bienville, the commandant assigned the place, which had been abandoned by them, to the use of some fugitive ‘Taensas.’ Another band, probably an offshoot from those who had wandered from South Carolina, found a home at the place now known as Oldtown, Alleghany county, Maryland, a few miles below the Cumberland on the Potomac river, and in 1738 we find by reference to Vol. I, Page 63, of the Virginia State Papers, that ‘the king of the Shawanese living at Alleghany sends friendly messages to Governor Gooch * * * desires peace,’ etc. This is likely the same band that in 1701 concluded a treaty with William Penn at Philadelphia and is referred to in the preamble to the treaty as inhabiting in and about the northern parts of the River Potomac. The nucleus for the Shawnee village which long occupied the neighborhood of Winchester, Va., is likely traceable to this band.

“But I have already far exceeded the proper limits of such an article and am yet more than a century behind in my story. I can give but the merest outline of their subsequent history. I shall be unable to consider and discuss the probabilities of their identity with the ‘Savannah’ Indians and their former residence on the Savannah river in Georgia; the story of their chief, Blackhoof, relative to their home on the Suwanee river in Florida; their asserted consanguinity with the Sacs and Foxes, or any other of the numerous suggestions and theories concerning their origin and primal abode. Between the date of the ejection of the western portion of the Shawnees from the valleys of the Cumberland and the Ten-

nesssee rivers and the middle of the Eighteenth century their appearance in history is rare. They were doubtless scattered in several bands along the Ohio river and in the interior of what are now the states of Ohio and Indiana. The oldest map on which I have noticed the location of the Shawnees within the limits of Ohio is that of Emanuel Bowen, published in London in 1752, which places a 'village d' Chouanou' on the north side of the Ohio river about midway between the mouths of the Kanawha and Sciota.

"That branch of the tribe living in Pennsylvania had in the meantime become decidedly the most numerous and important part of that of the state in which they lived and need not portand portion of the Shawnee people. Their history is here be recited. It is sufficient to state the fact that owing to the aggressiveness and encroachments of the increasing white population they were gradually crowded from their lands and homes until about the year 1750, when they began their migrations to the west of the Ohio river, and within a few years had united with their western brethren and were quite numerous in the Muskingum and Sciota Valleys. They sided actively with the French in the war of 1755, aided materially in the defeat of Braddock and were a terror to the border settlements of Pennsylvania and Virginia. In 1756 an expedition under Major Lewis against the upper town on the Ohio river, three miles above the mouth of the Kanawha, was a failure. In 1764 Colonel Boquet's expedition on the Muskingum resulted in securing temporary peace with them. In 1774 Colonel McDonald destroyed their town of Wappatomica, a few miles above Zanesville. In the same year they received a severe blow in the defeat at Point Pleasant. In 1779 Colonel Bowman's expedition destroyed the Shawnee village or chillicothe (Oldtown) on the Little Miami river three miles north of Xenia.

"In 1780 Gen. George Rogers Clark burnt the Piqua town on Mad river, the centennial anniversary of which is responsible for this lengthy disquisition. In 1782 General Clark repeated his expedition and destroyed the upper and

lower Piqua towns on the Great Miami within the present limits of Miami county. In 1786 Colonel Logan destroyed the Mackacheek towns in Logan county. In 1790 the Shawnees suffered from the expedition of General Harmar, but had a share with the Miamis in his final defeat. In 1791 they glutted their vengeance at the cruel defeat of St. Clair and in 1794 were among those who were made to feel the power of the Federal troops at Fallen Timbers, under General Wayne, which brought the peace of 1795. In the meantime the Shawnees had been parties to a treaty of peace with the United States in 1786 at the mouth of the Great Miami, but it failed of its object. As a result of Wayne's victory came the treaty of Greenville in 1795, participated in by the Shawnees and eleven other tribes, whereby all the territory south and east of a line beginning at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river, thence up the same to the portage leading to the Tuscarawas river, down the Tuscarawas to the crossing above Ft. Laurens thence westerly to Loramie's store on the Great Miami, thence to Ft. Recovery (the place of St. Clair's defeat) and thence southwesterly to the Ohio river, opposite the mouth of the Kentucky river, was ceded to the United States. This tract comprised about two-thirds of the area of Ohio and a portion of Indiana.

July 4, 1805, the Shawnees were again parties to a treaty wherein was ceded to the United States a large tract of country lying north and west of the Greenville treaty line and east of a north-and-south line 120 miles west of the Pennsylvania boundary. By treaty of November 25, 1808, in conjunction with other tribes, they ceded the right of way for two roads, one running from Ft. Meigs, on the Maumee, to the Western Reserve, and the other from Fremont south to the Greenville treaty line.

"Prior to the War of 1812 the Shawnees had become hostile to the United States. The great Tecumseh and his scheming brother, The Prophet, with their allies, were defeated by Harrison at Tippecanoe in 1811 and the Indian alliance was finally broken and dissolved by the death in 1813 of Tecumseh

at the battle of the Thames. By the treaty of 1817 the Wyandots, Pottawattomies and other tribes made a cession to the United States (in which the Shawnees concurred) of almost the entire Indian territory within the present limits of Ohio. Out of this cession the United States in turn granted them sundry small reservations upon which to live. Among these reservations there were for the Shawnees a tract ten miles square, with Wapakoneta as the center; a tract adjoining the above of twenty-five square miles on Hog creek, as well as a tract of forty-eight square miles surrounding Lewistown for the mixed Senecas and Shawnees. The treaty of 1818 added twenty square miles to the reserve at Wapakoneta and fourteen square miles to the one at Lewistown.

“By the treaty of July 20, 1831, the Lewistown Reserve was ceded to the United States and those at Wapakoneta and Hog creek were ceded on the 8th of the succeeding month, by which transaction the last vestige of Shawnee right or claims to lands in Ohio became extinguished and they agreed to move west of the Mississippi river. With this end in view a tract of 60,000 acres of land was granted to the Lewistown band of mixed Senecas and Shawnees, which was subsequently selected in the northeast corner of Indian Territory, to which they removed and where, with some subsequent modifications of boundaries, they now (1880) reside.

“It is necessary here to state that a band of Shawnees some years prior to 1793, becoming dissatisfied with the encroachments of the white settlers, removed west of the Mississippi river and in that year were, in conjunction with certain Delawares who accompanied them, granted a tract of land by Baron de Carondelet, the French governor. The Delawares having in 1815 abandoned this region, the Shawnees, in 1825, ceded the land to the United States and accepted in lieu thereof, for the accommodation of themselves and such of their brethren as should remove from Ohio, a tract in the eastern part of the present state of Kansas, 100 x 25 miles in extent, and removed thereto. To this reservation the

Wapakoneta and Hog Creek band of Shawnees, after the treaty of 1831, moved and the principal part of the tribe became again reunited.

“By the treaty of 1854 the Kansas Shawnees ceded to the United States all of their reservation but 200,000 acres, within which allotments of land in severalty were made to the individuals of the tribe, who from time to time with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior, sold the same, and under the provisions of an agreement entered into in 1869 with the Cherokees they removed to the country of the latter and merged their tribal existence with them. A number of the Kansas Shawnees who, just prior to and during the late rebellion, wandered off to Texas and Mexico, returned after the war and were provided with a home in the Indian Territory alongside of the Pottawattomies and are known as ‘Absentee Shawnees.’ These, together with those confederated with the Senecas in the northeastern part of Indian Territory, are all of the once numerous and powerful ‘Massawomekes’ now left to maintain the tribal name of Shawnee.”

CONFIRMED BY OLD OFFICIAL REPORTS.

Corroborative of Mr. Royce's opinion of the Ishmaelitish tendencies of the Shawnees, their hand against every man and every man's hand against them, it is set out in the official report of Antoine Gamelin, the special envoy of Major Hamtramck, commandant at Vincennes, sent out in the spring of 1788, following the establishment of the laws governing the Territory Northwest of the Ohio, to sound out the intentions of the Indians, that after a powwow at the Miami town with the chiefs of the Miamis, the Shawnees and the Delawares “the great chief told me that he was pleased with the speech (offering peace) and that he soon would give me an answer. In a private discourse with him he told me not to mind what the Shawnees would tell me, they having a bad heart and being the perturbators of all the nations. He said the Miamis had a bad name on account of the mischief done on the River

Ohio but, he told me, it was not occasioned by his young men but by the Shawnees, his young men having only gone for a hunt." Late figures relating to the Shawnees, who are now incorporated with the Cherokees in Oklahoma, give their total population at about 1,400.

When in 1785 Gen. George Rogers Clark and his fellow commissioners met to negotiate a treaty with the Shawnees and other Indians an incident occurred that showed Clark's fearless character and was a striking instance of his ascendancy over the minds of the Indians. It is narrated that the Indians arrived at Ft. Washington (Cincinnati), the treaty point, all in a most friendly manner except the Shawnees, the most conceited and warlike of the aborigines—"the first at the battle and the last at the treaty." Three hundred of their fittest warriors, set off in all their paint and feathers, filed into the council house. Their number and demeanor, so unusual at an occasion of this sort, was altogether unexpected and suspicious. The United States stockade mustered seventy men. In the center of the hall at a little table sat General Clark, the indefatigable scourge of these very mauraders; Richard Butler, who six years later gave his life in battle with the Indians at the headwaters of the Wabash when St. Clair's force met defeat at the hands of the redskins, and Samuel Parsons, the three commissioners. On the part of the Indians an old council sachem and a war chief took the lead. The latter, a tall, raw-boned fellow with an impudent and a villainous look, made a boisterous and threatening speech which operated effectively upon the passions of the Indians, who set up a prodigious war whoop at every pause. He concluded by presenting a black wampum and a white wampum to signify that they were prepared for either event, war or peace.

General Clark, the narrative then goes on to say, exhibited the same unaltering and careless countenance he had shown during the whole scene, his head leaning on his left hand, his elbow resting on the table. He raised his little cane and pushed the sacred wampum off the table with very little

ceremony. Every Indian at the same time started from his seat with one of those sudden, simultaneous and peculiarly savage sounds which startles and disconcerts the stoutest hearts and can neither be described nor forgotten. At this juncture Clark arose and the savage scrutinizing eyes cowered at his glance. He stamped his foot on the prostrate and insulting symbols and ordered the Shawnees to leave the hall. They did so apparently involuntarily and were heard all night debating in the bushes near the fort. The raw-boned chief was for war and the old sachem for peace. The latter prevailed and the next morning they came back and sued for peace.

"It must never be forgotten," says the historian, Elmore Barce ("The Land of the Miamis"), "that despite his stoicism in facing danger, his skill in battle, his power to endure privation, and his undoubted valor and bravery, that the Indian was a savage, and entertained the thoughts of a savage. Toward those who, like the French, pampered his appetites and indulged his passions to secure his trade, he entertained no malice. * * * Thus the British Government, through its duly authorized agents, its governor and army officers, retained the posts belonging to the new republic, encouraged the tribes in their depredations, and defeated the pacific intentions of the American people, and all from the sordid motives of gain. On April 30, 1798, when George Washington was inaugurated as the first President, every savage chieftain along the Wabash, or dwelling at the forks of the Maumee, was engaged in active warfare against the people of the United States, largely through the instrumentality of the British officials. * * * The star of the Little Turtle was in the ascendant. He was now thirty-eight years of age, and while not a hereditary chieftain of the Miamis, his prowess and cunning had given him fame. The Indians never made a mistake in choosing a military leader. He watched the Americans from the very time of their leaving Fort Washington, and purposed to destroy them at the Indian town. * * * General William Henry Harrison, who

was aide to Wayne at the battle of Fallen Timbers, said to him: "General Wayne, I am afraid you will get into the fight yourself, and forget to give me the necessary field orders." "Perhaps I may," replied Wayne, "and if I do, recollect the standing order of the day is, 'Charge the damned rascals with the bayonet'!"

A STORY THAT HAS BEEN TOLD AND RETOLD.

The historical literature of Ohio is equal in volume and interest to that of any state in the Union. The story of a rich and proud state has been told and retold and many volumes are accessible to the student who would seek to know the whole wondrous tale in full. No detail of this story is more engrossingly interesting than that relating to the Indian wars, and in no section of the state were the incidents of these wars more conclusive than those that had their scene of action in this section of the state. Incidents relating to these actions up to the close of the Revolutionary period have been touched on above. General Harmar's defeat on the Maumee in 1790; St. Clair's defeat at the headwaters of the Wabash, on the western border of this state (Ft. Recovery), in 1791; the ineffectual council with the victorious Indians at the mouth of the Auglaize (Defiance) in 1792; Wayne's victory at Ft. Recovery in June, 1794, and his conclusive defeat of the Indians at the decisive battle of Fallen Timbers in the following August, which was followed by the erection of a chain of forts controlling the waters north and south of our divide, including that at St. Marys and at Loramie; the memorable treaty at Greenville in the following year; Blackhoof's rejection of Tecumseh's confederation proposal at Wapakoneta in 1810 and the overthrow of the Indian confederacy at Tippecanoe in 1811; the War of 1812 and General Harrison's operations at St. Marys and the strengthening of the fort (Barbee) there; the erection of Ft. Amanda on the Auglaize near what is now the northern border of this county, and of the garrison at Wapakoneta; the destruction of the

Shawnee chillicothe (Oldtown) west of St. Marys in 1813; the second treaty of Greenville in 1814; the treaty of the Maumee in 1817, and finally the treaty of St. Marys in 1818, followed by the rapid settlement of this region and the organization of Mercer and Allen counties in 1820, constitute a story that in the full telling would require volumes.

Happily, all has been told and the thrilling story is an open page to any who would read. Unhappily, it only can be touched on in such a narrative as that here in hand. The limitations of this work preclude even an exhaustive review. But certain high lights properly may be introduced. In the libraries of many homes in this county and in the school libraries, available to all students, are histories carrying a wealth of information along this line. Local reviews have been written, exhaustive and illuminating, including those of two eminent local school men of another day, Prof. C. W. Williamson and Prof. J. D. Simkins, which twenty years and more ago were widely distributed hereabouts, and Henry Harvey's History of the Shawnees. All these are available and to them the attention of the student is recommended.

The following ballad hinging on the disastrous defeat of Gen. Arthur St. Clair's army by the Indians at the headwaters of the Wabash was sung by the pioneers to a plaintive air, the cadence fitting the lines, and printed copies of it long hung on the walls of the log cabins, indicative of the popular grief over an event which certainly retarded for years the advance of settlement in the Middle West. The ballad is an illuminative specimen of the primitive literature of the then frontier country and is printed under the title of

SAINCLAIRE'S DEFEAT.

'Twas November the fourth, in the year of ninety-one,
We had a sore engagement near to Fort Jefferson;
Sainclaire was our commander, which may remembered be,
For there we left nine hundred men in the West'n Ter'tory.

At Bunker's Hill and Quebec, there many a hero fell,
Likewise at Long Island (it is I the truth can tell),
But such a dreadful carnage may I never see again
As hap'ned near St. Mary's, upon the river plain.

Our army was attacked just as the day did dawn,
And soon were overpowered and driven from the lawn.
They killed Major Oldham, Levin and Briggs likewise,
And horrid yells of sav'ges resounded through the skies.

Major Butler was wounded the very second fire;
His manly bosom swell'd with rage when forced to retire;
And as he lay in anguish, nor scarcely could he see,
Exclaimed, "Ye hounds of hell! Oh revenged will I be."

We had not long been broken when General Butler found
Himself so badly wounded, was forced to quit the ground;
"My God!" says he, "what shall we do? We're wounded every man;
Go charge them, valiant heroes, and beat them if you can."

He leaned his back against a tree, and there resigned his breath,
And like a valiant soldier sunk in the arms of death;
When blessed angels did await his spirit to convey,
And unto the celestial fields he quickly bent his way.

We charged again with courage firm, but soon again gave ground;
The war whoop then redoubled, as did the foes around.
They killed Major Ferguson, which caused his men to cry,
"Our only safety is in flight, or fighting here we die."

"Stand to your guns," says valiant Ford; "let's die upon them here,
Before we let the sav'ges know we ever harbored fear!"
Our cannon balls exhausted and artill'ry men all slain,
Obliged were our musketmen the en'my to sustain.

Yet three hours more we fought them, and then were forc'd to yield,
When three hundred warriors lay stretched upon the field.
Says Colonel Gibson to his men, "My boys, be not dismayed,
I'm sure that true Virginians were never yet afraid.

"Ten thousands deaths I'd rather die than they should gain the field."
With that he got a fatal shot, which caused him to yield.
Says Major Clarke, "My heroes, I can here no longer stand;
We'll strive to form in order, and retreat the best we can."

The word "Retreat" being passed around, there was a dismal cry,
Then helter-skelter through the woods like wolves and sheep they fly;
This well appointed army, who but a day before
Defied and braved all danger, had like a cloud passed o'er.

Alas, the dying and wounded, how dreadful was the thought!
To the tomahawk and scalping knife in mis'ry are brought.
Some had a thigh and some an arm broke on the field that day,
Who writhed in torments at the stake to close the dire affray.

To mention our brave officers, is what I wish to do;
No sons of Mars e'er fought more brave, or with more courage true.
To Captain Bradford I belonged, in his artillery;
He fell that day amongst the slain, a valiant man was he.

It is proper to note that the balladist assumed a good deal of "poetic license" in setting out some of the incidents of his harrowing narrative. This is particularly true of his description of the manner in which General Butler "unto the celestial fields he quickly bent his way." Simon Girty, of execrable memory, was the leader of the Wyandots. It is narrated that "the Wyandots fought courageously, and none with more bravery than their leader, Simon Girty, who was presented with three of the captured cannon; but the present proved of no value to him, as he could not remove them."

Butterfield, the apologist of the Girtys, in his history says that "among those who fought with the savages on that occasion (St. Clair's defeat) were considerable numbers of Canadians, mostly young men, and particularly such as were born of Indian mothers. There were also some refugees present. Girty was not the only one who, on that day, fought against his countrymen. After the action he found General Butler on the field, writhing from the agony of his wounds. The general spoke to him and requested him to end his misery. Girty refused to do this, but turning to one of the Indian warriors, told him the wounded man was a high officer; whereupon the savage planted his tomahawk in his head, and thus terminated his sufferings. His scalp was instantly torn from his crown, his heart taken out and divided into as many pieces as there were tribes engaged in the battle."

"'Oh!' said an old squaw who died many years ago on the St. Marys, 'my arm was that night so weary scalping white men,' " says another narrative. Still another narrative has it that General Wilkinson visited the battlefield about three months after the action and reported that "the scene was truly melancholy. In my opinion, those unfortunate men

who fell into the enemy's hands, with life, were used with the greatest torture—having their limbs torn off; and the women have been treated with the utmost indecent cruelty, having stakes as thick as a person's arm driven through their bodies. Believing that the whites made war merely to acquire land, the Indians crammed clay and sand into the eyes and down the throats of the dying and the dead." Contemporary accounts have it that there were no fewer than 250 women in the army, following the fortunes of their husbands, of whom fifty-six were killed in battle, and the remainder were made prisoners, except a small number who reached Ft. Washington (Cincinnati).

There are many accounts, in the old books, of the days of the Indian wars, but they for the great part are closed to the youngsters of the present generation who perhaps regard the incidents of those days of the winning of the West as a story that has been told. They thus not only are unmindful of but uninformed concerning the terrible price paid for their common heritage in the beautiful lands of Ohio.

THE COMING OF THE SHAWNEES TO WAPAKONETA.

As has been set out, the Shawnees came to what is now Auglaize county because they had been driven away from their hunting grounds in the Piqua country to the south by General Clark. "As had happened with them throughout their whole history," according to Professor Simkin's comment, "they stopped at the most desirable place until they were driven away. They had no title to or claim on the land in the Auglaize country. The Wyandots seemed to have had the best claim to this region at that time, although they had come as tenants at will under the Miamis, possibly as early as 1700. So the Shawnees remained here as tenants at will under the Wyandots." Quaskey (Blackhoof), then their chief, established his council house at Wapakoneta and there the chief village of the Shawnees became the acknowledged center of the tribe. As hunting centers, villages also were

created at the old Ottawa town farther down the Auglaize, where Ft. Amanda, at the northern edge of this county, later was erected, and in the northern edge of the great prairie (Oldtown) now covered by the waters of the Grand Reservoir, west of St. Marys. There no doubt were other centers occupied by portions of the tribe, for their hunting grounds covered all the territory now comprised within the counties of Auglaize, Logan, Shelby, Mercer, VanWert and Allen. "Captain Johnny" and his following had their village on the west bank of Pusheta creek, where that stream enters the Auglaize. Old Chief Quaskey (Blackhoof) had his last camp on the summit of one of the picturesque hills at what is now the site of the village of St. Johns, old Blackhoof Town, and there he spent his last days and was buried, and the creek which rises there bears his name, Blackhoof creek.

"Their name is on your waters,
Ye may not wash it out."

So numerous, in fact were the Indian villages throughout this region that General Wayne, writing from Grand Glaize in 1794 observed that "the margins of these rivers (the Miamis of the lakes and the Auglaize) appear like one continuous village for a number of miles both above and below this place, nor have I ever before beheld such immense fields of corn in any part of America from Canada to Florida." All contemporary accounts are agreed that the Indians of this region gave much attention to agriculture, one stating that they "had not only much corn, etc., but they also depended largely on the chase. They hesitated about taking the field unless they had large quantities of corn 'cached' in their villages. Some of them had extensive orchards and Wayne cut down several thousand peach and apple trees during one of his expeditions." Some idea of the corn raised by the Indians can be had from the statement that at the taking of the Piqua village two hundred acres of corn were destroyed and that ten years later during another military campaign

in that same region 20,000 bushels were burned. It must be kept in mind, however, that the cultivation of the soil devolved entirely upon the squaws and children. It was beneath the dignity of the "noble redskin" to demean himself by manual labor. He believed in the trite maxim: "Let the women do the work."

THE HOME LIFE OF THE RED MAN.

The only manual labor the men ever performed was to make bows and arrows, tomahawks of stone, war clubs and canoes. The latter were either made of logs slowly burned out and then smoothed with sharp shells, or of birch bark, which the women sewed together with long strips of bark of the red elm or basswood and smeared the seams with the gum of the spruce tree to make them water tight. The implements of agriculture originally used by the Indians were the sharpened bones of the larger animals, tortoise shells or flat stones. but after the traders came among them they exchanged furs for hoes and such other implements as might be provided. Not only did the squaws till the soil but they prepared the food and did the cooking, this including the "jerking" of the venison, bear and buffalo meat, drying the wild fruits and pumpkins, husking and storing away the corn and gathering the wood for the fires, besides which the duty of making the wearing apparel, moccasins, baskets, tepees and the like, the making of maple sugar and all domestic labors devolved upon them. The braves amused themselves in fishing, hunting, gambling, fighting a hostile tribe or devoting themselves to their toilets—painting, tatooing or otherwise decorating their bodies. The Indian's religion was a subject of real concern to him and his religious ceremonies "were performed with great earnestness and solemn formality," his various formal dances being designed to secure the favor of the Great Spirit in whatever enterprise he might have afoot.

How many aboriginals occupied the territory now comprised within this county when at the height of their tribal

prosperity is altogether a matter of conjecture, but estimates made long ago place the number at something like 2,000. But evil days came upon them. They fell victims to epidemic disease, their normal birth rate declined and by the time the white man became present here in considerable numbers they had declined to a mere "ragged remnant" of their once proud strength. In his report of the number of Indians under his charge while acting as Indian agent at Piqua in 1819, Col. John Johnston, the agent, made note of the Shawnees then living in their village, the old council town of Wapakoneta, as follows: Men, 265; women, 256; children, 279, and of the Ottawas along the Auglaize in Ottawa Town (in what is now Logan township, this county) as follows: Men, 85; women, 88; children, 54. When in the fall of 1832, following the cession of their reservation hereabout, they started on their long journey to the new lands that were being given them beyond the Mississippi, there were about 1,100 (men, women and children) in the sorrowful cavalcade.

In his illuminative monograph on "The Indian Tribes of Ohio—Historically Considered" (1899), Prof. Warren K. Moorehead asks: "What have we remaining of these once powerful tribes? Nothing! Only a few graves and village-sites here and there, or scattered monuments, attest their presence. In the names of our rivers, creeks and townships we have preserved the fact that the Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandots, etc., were once here. But in the volumes on Ohio history is our permanent record. It is a sad one; a record written in blood. Reviewed after the passing of several generations, we can today see that many of the expeditions were wholly unnecessary and barren of results; that much of the Indian war could have been averted. Had our adventurers, hunters and land grabbers been suppressed; treaties and boundaries once made respected and such men as Hackewelder and Zeisberger (the Moravians) placed in charge of all the Ohio tribes and given unlimited authority, backed by the powers at Pittsburg or by the general government, I doubt not but that there would have been few wars and far less

ravaging of the frontiers." Professor Moorehead's computation has it that during the long struggle with the Indians 7,837 Indians and 12,002 whites were killed within Ohio or by war parties sent out from Ohio against the frontiers.

THE GENTLE INFLUENCE OF THE QUAKERS.

Following the conclusion of the treaty of Greenville (1795), which virtually terminated the old Indian wars, it is narrated that the Shawnees returned to their old time vocations, hunting, trapping and the cultivation of the soil. The French and American traders resumed their business, which for a time had been suspended on account of war and the trade in the scalps of white men ceased. No longer were captives compelled to run the gauntlet or endure torture at the stake. The close of the Greenville treaty indeed seemed to be the beginning of a new era for the Shawnees. Interest was being manifested in their behalf in influential quarters in the East and the older chronicles have it that "the address prepared at a yearly meeting of the Friends (Quakers) of Philadelphia and read to the Indians on the 2d of August by General Wayne had a greater effect on their minds than was generally supposed at the time." Soon after this, according to these narratives, a correspondence between the Shawnees and the Friends of Philadelphia was commenced and was continued until 1802, when a deputation of Shawnees, including Chief Blackhoof, and several Delaware chiefs on their way to Washington, on business connected with Indian affairs, visited Philadelphia to renew their acquaintance with their old friends, the Quakers. The accounts of this visit state that the chiefs were treated with great kindness and that they were furnished with a considerable amount of goods and money adapted to their needs. In the following year the Society of Friends sent missionaries to the Shawnees to teach them agriculture and instruct them in the principles of Christianity. Among the Quakers who thus visited the Shawnee village at Wapakoneta was Henry Harvey, who

later was to become superintendent of the mission at Wapakoneta and who remained with the Indians there until their dispossession and retirement in 1832. The labors of these first missionaries were continued until the time of the breaking out of the War of 1812, when the thoughts of the red man again reverted to war and the labors of the missionaries were necessarily suspended until the return of peace, after which they were resumed.

"About this time" (1819), wrote Henry Harvey in his illuminative History of the Shawnee Indians, "the Friends erected for the Shawnees, at their own expense and with the consent of the Government, a gristmill and a sawmill on the Auglaize river at Wapaughkonetta (old spelling) and made other improvements at that place, such as a dwelling house for a superintendent and family, who were sent out to reside among the Indians, to take charge of the mills and to endeavor to assist and encourage them in commencing the improvement of their land. From the knowledge they soon acquired in the arts of agriculture they learned to raise corn, beans, pumpkins, etc. The corn they had ground at the mill free of toll, which their women soon learned to bake into bread, which they found much easier done than their former method of pounding into hominy.

"The expense of erecting the mills, keeping them in repair, paying hands to attend them, as well as every other expense appertaining to the support of this institution for the benefit of the Indians, was all borne by the Society of Friends. The sawmill was used in making boards, in order to assist the Indians in making their houses and furniture for the comfort of their families. A large amount of expense was incurred by keeping up and supporting this institution in that remote place, it being thirty miles from the settlements of white people, as all supplies had to be hauled that distance, over extremely bad roads, and a vast amount fed away to the hungry Indian; notwithstanding which the society continued its labors, although there was much difficulty in obtaining superintendents in that wilderness, who

were willing to forsake the comforts of life and civil and religious liberty and spend their time in that cold and inhospitable region, and spend such a life as they had then to endure among this rude and savage people.

“The Shawnees were very ignorant in regard to building houses, making rails, building fences, etc. Being aware of this the Society employed young white men to assist them in building cabins, making rails and in doing many other things. They were furnished, too, with plow irons which the Friends stocked for them. About this time they received a handsome present in money from a female Friend in England for the purpose of supplying them with farming utensils and other necessary implements of husbandry, as an encouragement to them in their laudable undertaking. This money was judiciously appropriated, which, together with the assistance they received from the Government and by their own industry, they were soon in a way of doing much better for themselves than they had formerly been. Thus encouraged in bettering their education in life, they fast gained in the arts of civilization and in the acquisition of property, and the estimation of its real value after having honestly acquired it. Being gradually furnished with cows, they soon learned the use of them, to the great comfort of themselves and families. They soon learned the use and benefit of oxen and work horses and plowed their corn, thus relieving their women of the intolerable task they had before laid on them, of raising their corn with the hoe, and by that course the women had more time to attend to the care of themselves and families. And, as the men thus made provisions for furnishing food for their families, the women were not behind in their part of the work; and at length these kind-hearted people had begun, under the fostering care of the Government and by the aid of the Society, to realize better days and to find themselves in a situation through which they could look forward with pleasing hope of one day being a prosperous and happy people.

“They had by two treaties secured an annuity of \$3,000 annually, to be paid them at Wapaughkonetta, for the benefit of the whole tribe; that is, each person to draw his or her portion in money annually, forever. This for many years was honestly paid to them, agreeably to the stipulations of the treaties, while their old and worthy agent remained in charge of their affairs (John Johnston, with headquarters at Piqua, was at that time Indian agent for all the tribes in northwestern Ohio); but, as the Government itself passed into new hands, so in like manner those officers who had long managed Indian affairs had to give place to others, who neglected their business, and the poor Indians suffered.”

THE OLD TRADING POST AT WAPAKONETA.

Col. John Johnston, above referred to, formerly agent of Indian affairs in the northwest and later United States commissioner, was born in Ireland in 1775 and was seventeen years of age when he came to America with his parents in 1792, the family locating at Philadelphia. A year later he was appointed to a position in the quartermaster's service in General Wayne's army and presently was given a clerkship in the War Department, where "his deportment and high standing as an accountant in that department led to his appointment as Indian agent at Ft. Wayne." In 1798 he took his station at Ft. Wayne, where he remained for eleven years, or until 1809, when he was transferred to the agency at Piqua, and was thus in charge at that important agency during the period of the War of 1812. In this connection, it is narrated that during this war "the greater number of friendly Indians who had not been influenced by Tecumseh and The Prophet were assembled at Piqua under Colonel Johnston." The tribes which claimed and received protection from the United States were the Shawnees, Delawares, Wyandots (in part), Ottawas (in part), a portion of the Senecas, the Muncies and the Mohicans. The number at Piqua has been variously estimated by different writers at from 5,000 to 10,000.

“The emissaries of Tecumseh entered the camps and sought by every means to win them over, but there was an insurmountable barrier in the presence of Colonel Johnston, whose influence more than counter-balanced all Tecumseh’s arguments and the high price offered by the English for American scalps. Knowing that so long as Johnston were alive they could not effect their object, various plots for his assassination were devised. Surrounded by Indians, a price upon his head, rising in the morning with no assurance of living until night, retiring at night expecting to be murdered in bed, he remained at his post, although often warned by the friendly chiefs of certain death and by them advised to seek safety elsewhere. * * * The Indians frequently gave evidence of their fidelity during the war. At the surrender of Detroit the frontier was laid bare to the incursions of the hostile Indians. Ft. Wayne was threatened at a time when there were many women and children there, who would be in danger and also a hindrance to its defense. Colonel Johnston ordered them to be brought to the agency. Logan (not the famous Mingo chief, but a noted chief at Wapakoneta) immediately offered his services and with a party of volunteers—all mounted Indians—started to the fort. Upon arriving there they received their charge and returned with them in safety through a country swarming with painted foes, Logan and his party exercising a gallantry that elicited the highest commendations from the ladies.”

Colonel Johnston was retained as Indian agent until his displacement during the Jackson administration, after which he spent his time variously with his children at Piqua, Dayton, Cincinnati and New York, and his death occurred while on a visit to Washington in February, 1861, he then being past eighty years of age. He had married a sixteen-year-old girl at Philadelphia upon receiving his appointment to the post at Ft. Wayne in 1798 and she accompanied him to his frontier station and remained with him during all the years of hazard in the Indian country. To them were born fifteen children. George C. Johnston, a cousin of the colonel, was

for years an Indian trader throughout this region, and in January, 1819, was licensed as a regular trader among the Indians and located at Wapakoneta. He straightway gained the confidence of the resident Shawnees and opened a large trade in furs and skins in exchange for the goods which he brought up by way of Cincinnati, up the Miami to Piqua and by pack train thence to Wapakoneta.

It is narrated that George Johnston's average trade in furs with the Indians hereabout aggregated as much as \$25,000 annually, his furs being sold to the agents of John Jacob Astor at Ft. Wayne. His chief articles of traffic were powder, lead, coffee, sugar, tobacco, knives, blankets, shawls, ribbons and figured fabrics of all kinds, of which the Indians were very fond. The young squaws bought large quantities of trinkets and silver ornaments. The older chronicles have it that the hunting Indians wore leggings and hunting shirts made of dressed deer skins, and heavy moccasins of the same material, while the squaws wore cloth leggings, elaborately trimmed with colored ribbons and porcupine quills, and skirts of cloth covered with silver trinkets. They wore nothing over their heads, while the men generally wore red handkerchiefs over their heads. It is said that Mr. Johnston never dealt in intoxicating liquors, for he believed that much of the trouble with the red man resulted from the use of liquor, and made it a point of honor to deal justly with them in his trading operations. When Johnston located at Wapakoneta all this region was covered with timber save certain sections of natural prairie and small patches along the streams, which were cultivated by the squaws. The only highway that could so be dignified by name was the old Wayne military 'trace' and of white settlers there were very few, the cabin of an occasional "squatter" marking the point of advance of some adventurous spirit into the wilderness.

THE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES OF THE SHAWNEES.

In the published papers of the Piqua chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution there is a sketch of George C. Johnston, written by Mrs. Louise W. McKinney, who knew well the old trader in the days of his "hale old age" and who lamented that "it is a public misfortune that what he knew, which would be of so much interest and of great value to history, should have been allowed to die with him. He carried volumes of anecdote and Indian reminiscences with him to the tomb." Mrs. McKinney's narrative has it that Johnston spoke the Shawnee tongue with fluency. The Indians gave him the name of Wathe-the-wee-law. He had a wonderful memory and described Indian feasts in an interesting manner, declaring that the Feast of Ingathering was the most solemn and important—similar to one of the old Jewish feasts. It took place when the new corn had sufficiently matured for use and was called by the Shawnees "Na-a-wat-se-we-sa-mon-rie-tau," or Giving-thanks-to-the-Great-Spirit-for-the-new-corn. The custom was rigidly observed and it was unlawful to touch or use the new corn until a part of it had been offered in sacrifice to the Great Spirit. At the ceremony a circle was formed and none but Indians and such white men as may have been adopted into the tribe were admitted. Having formed the circle, the leader, or priest, took two ash sticks and rubbed them together until they ignited and then kindled a small fire in the center of the circle and thereon burned a few ears of corn, at the same time thanking the Great Spirit for the new crop of corn. After having made this offering they were at liberty to gather and use the corn. This ceremony was quite solemn and no dancing or merrymaking was permitted.

The next feast was a sort of Feast of Tabernacles and required every man, woman and child to be present. Quantities of venison, bear meat, wild turkey and pheasants were provided for the occasion and while the food was cooking the young warriors and squaws selected a smooth, grassy spot for

dancing, the dance being executed to the rhythmic beating of a tamborine constructed by drawing a specially cured deer skin over a hoop, the "musician" creating the measure to which the Indians responded in a lively dance, marching up and down and occasionally accentuating the measure with an emphatic "he-ha-ho!" The gaily dressed squaws with their showy shawls and gaudy ribbons gave a wildness to the scene that might have challenged the pen of a Cooper. The utmost decorum was observed between the sexes and the exercise would continue until about 3 o'clock, when the great dinner of the feast would be eaten, the national feast of the tribe. Food in large quantities was placed on slips of bark, answering the use of plates, and handed to all present, and it was expected that each should devour all that was placed on his bark plate. Then they quietly separated and returned to their respective wigwams and villages.

Not long after taking up his residence among the Indians, Mr. Johnston was invited by the Chief Blackhoof to attend one of these feasts. George Moffatt, who was with him and who was well versed in Indian customs, instructed Johnston on the etiquette of Indian feasts. He told him to request the Indian who waited on him to put but little food on his bark plate, giving him as an excuse that he had eaten before he left home, for if he failed to eat all the large quantity given him the offense would be unpardonable. At the Warriors' Feast all that was left of the flesh and bones was burned as a sacrifice to the Great Spirit. After the feast the warriors threw down deer and bearskins and sat in a circle, a war post being in the center. One of the warriors arose and stepping briskly forward to the post struck it with his tomahawk and, turning around, exhibited a string of human scalps and recited his warlike achievements in a clear, connected manner. When he had ended he sat down and another took his place, until all had recited their warlike deeds. It is narrated that old Chief Blackhoof had no fewer than 127 scalps on his string.

THE PASSING OF THE SHAWNEES FROM WAPAKONETA.

By the important treaty at the foot of the rapids of the Maumee on September 29, 1817, between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawnees, Pottawattomies, Ottawas and Chippewa tribes of Indians, the United States granted "by patent in fee simple to Catewekesa or Blackhoof, Byaseka or Wolf, Pomthe or Walker, Shementoo or Big Snake, Othowakeseka or Yellow Feather, Chakalowah or the Tail's End, Pemthela or John Perry, Wabepee or White Color, chiefs of the Shawnee tribe residing at Wapaghkonetta (sic), and their successors in office, chiefs of the said tribe, residing there, for the use of the persons mentioned in the annexed schedule, a tract of land ten miles square, the center of which shall be the council house at Wapaghkonetta." In addition to this there was granted "by patent in fee simple, to Pectha or Falling Tree and to Onowaskemo or the Resolute Man, chiefs of the Shawnee tribe, residing on Hog creek, and their successors in office, chiefs of the said tribe, residing there, for the use of the persons mentioned in the annexed schedule, a tract of land containing twenty-five square miles, which is to join the tract granted at Wapaghkonetta, and to include the Shawnee settlement on Hog creek, and to be laid off as nearly as possible in a square form."

And it was thus that the Shawnees hereabout who theretofore had been living here simply as tenants under sufferance of the Wyandots came into formal possession of one hundred square miles of land lying in the very center of what is now Auglaize county, this tract extending north to the site of the present village of Cridersville, east to a point two miles beyond the village of St. Johns, south to a point a half mile below Freyburg and west to a point three miles west of Wapakoneta, besides the tract of twenty-five square miles on Hog creek. By the treaty of St. Marys in the next year the Shawnees were given an additional tract of 12,800 acres ad-

joining the original tract on the west, this extending their chief reservation to a point about one mile east of the present village of Moulton. Besides this, the descendants of old Chief Logan, heretofore referred to, received 640 acres of land in what is now Logan township and adjoining the Wapakoneta reservation line on the north, in sections 26 and 35 of that township. It is apparent that these supplemental reservations were granted in response to complaints on the part of the Shawnees that they had not been treated with a sufficient measure of generosity in the former treaty.

Following the treaty of St. Marys in 1818 and the opening of lands throughout this region to settlement, the influx of settlers was so rapid, public lands eagerly being taken up, that within the next three years formal civic organizations were effected all around the Wapakoneta reservation and the counties of Allen, Hardin, Shelby, Darke, Mercer and Van Wert were erected. Within ten years after the treaty of St. Marys it became apparent to the Government agents that it would become necessary ere long to remove the Indian tribes in Ohio farther west. The older chronicles point out that as early as 1828 petitions were presented to Congress, importuning that body to purchase the Indian reservations of Ohio and to transport the red men to points beyond the Mississippi. The agitation of the purchase was pressed with much energy and in 1831 James Gardner, of Columbus, was appointed by the Government to confer with the Shawnees at Wapakoneta and submit proposals to them for the purchase of their lands. Accordingly, in the summer of that year Gardner sent a message to the chiefs at Wapakoneta announcing to them that he would visit them within a few days thereafter to make proposals to them for the purchase of their lands.

In his review of this transaction, Professor Williamson states that "this was the first intimation received by the chiefs from the Government since the lands were ceded to them that such a proposal was contemplated. As may be imagined, the Indians were thrown into a state of great excitement by the

message." Henry Harvey, the Quaker missionary, who had been laboring with the Shawnees at Wapakoneta since 1819 and whose History of the Shawnees, written years afterward, throws such an illuminating light on the negotiations that followed, was called into a council immediately called by the chiefs and at his advice an emphatic answer was made to Gardner's message advising him not to come to Wapakoneta with any such proposals, as they would not meet him. The story then goes on to say that their reply availed them little. It seems that many of the Indians were in debt to the traders for goods bought and that these traders now were engaged by Gardner in carrying forward his designs. The traders are said to have approached their debtors with demands that were excessive, attempting to coerce them by enforcing payment, and at the same time "offered the chiefs large bribes to use their influence in inducing the nation to sell."

CROOKED WORK OF WILY TRADERS.

Other concurrent comment on this turn of affairs is that "it did not require a great length of time for the traders to induce certain unsophisticated chiefs to accept their promised bribes. Whilst the agents were engaged in their work of bribery and intimidation, the chiefs received a second communication from Gardner informing them that he would be at Wapakoneta on a certain day and desiring the chiefs to meet him there at the time proposed. At the time appointed the commissioners arrived. Before calling the chiefs together, however, he decided to dispense with the services of every person who might be an impediment in carrying out his designs. Francis Duchouquet, an aged Frenchman, who had been the interpreter in many treaties under Governor Cass and John Johnston, was first made drunk by the traders and then removed by the commissioner. It is needless to say that a man was appointed who was capable of interpreting the negotiations to suit the desires of the commissioner."

Henry Harvey's story of the transaction has it that "on

the opening of the council the commissioner first read a part of his instructions from the President, through the secretary of war, but not all. He then commenced his speech about noon and continued it until evening, without coming to a close, and finished the next morning. In his speech he told the Indians that they were in a deplorable condition, surrounded by bad white people, and likely soon to be in a much worse condition; that the white people were now selling them whisky which was ruining them; that the game was nearly gone; that, worse than all this, the state of Ohio would soon extend her laws over them and, in order that they might know the real condition they would be in, he could tell what those laws would be. He said the laws would compel them to pay tax for the benefit of the white people and allow them no benefit from those laws or from the money thus paid by them; that the laws would compel them to work on the public roads each year; that the laws would be so made that the white people might swear to debts against the Indians and collect them, but that none of them would be allowed to collect a debt by law unless they could prove it by a white man; that white men might turn horses and cattle in their grain fields and destroy it all, but unless they could prove the facts by a white person they would have no remedy; that they might be beaten or killed by white men—no matter how many Indians were injured—unless they could prove it by a white man they had, or would have, no remedy. And many other things he said to them in order, no doubt, to induce them to sell on almost any terms he might wish to offer to them, which, when through with these things, he declared that just in that way Georgia had treated the Cherokees; and again assured them that, as sure as they remained here, the state of Ohio would do as Georgia had done; that it was a right which was guaranteed the state by the constitution of the United States and that Congress would not interfere, but leave to the state the right to regulate its own affairs as it might see proper, etc.

“After he had thus alarmed them in regard to their present and future condition, in case they adhered to their

resolution to remain in Ohio, he told them that in case they would now sell their land and go West that their great father, General Jackson, would make them rich. He told them that there was a good, rich country laid off for all the Indians to move to, west of the state of Missouri, which never would be within any state or territory of the United States, where there was plenty of buffalo, elk and deer and where they could live well without working at all. He also told them that if they would sell their land in Ohio the Government would give them in exchange 100,000 acres of good land adjoining the tract of fifty miles square which was ceded to their brethren, the Shawnees of Missouri, by Governor Clark at St. Louis in 1825, and on which they were living, and which they should hold forever; that as their friends, the Quakers, had erected a gristmill and sawmill at Wapakoneta for them, free of cost to the Government, the United States would build at its own expense good mills in their new country and pay the Indians in cash the amount of what good men may adjudge their improvements to be worth in order to enable them to make improvements at their new homes and that the Government would give them guns to kill the game on the prairies, also tools of every description to work with," and much more along this line, concluding by declaring "that he would leave them and return in about four weeks, when they could return their answer."

IDLE, DISSIPATED FELLOWS WIN THE DAY.

"The Shawnees were much divided about selling," continues Mr. Harvey's account. "Those who had made the greatest advancement in improvement were all opposed to the idea of leaving their homes, but such as were idle, dissipated fellows urged the measure. These, backed by the traders with bribes, outnumbered the others and word was conveyed by a few of the chiefs to the commissioner to come on and close the contract. * * * He accordingly attended and on the chiefs again assembling he renewed the same offer

as before and urged them strongly to sell. * * * On the day following the close of Gardner's address, Wayweleapy (Willipie), the Shawnee orator, replied to them * * * that the Shawnees had agreed to sell their land if he would give to them for it what he had offered them and in addition would pay their debts, which was common in Indian treaties. The commissioner informed the Indians that he would have a clause in the treaty binding the Government to pay all their debts. * * * He then told the chiefs that he had the treaty all drawn up in order, but that it was very long and as it then was late in the day there would not be time to read it over, and asked them to come forward and sign it. They hesitated for a long time and appeared to fear that all was not right, or he would have read to them the treaty before asking them to sign it, but at length they signed the instrument."

This was on August 8, 1831, and the "articles of agreement and convention made and concluded at Wapaghkonnetta" were signed by James B. Gardner, commissioner on the part of the United States, and John McElvain, Indian agent, on the one part, and the "principal chiefs, head men and warriors of the tribe of Shawnee Indians residing at Wapaghkonnetta and Hog creek" on the second part, the Government thus agreeing "to cause the said tribe or band of Shawnees, consisting of about four hundred souls, to be removed, in a convenient and suitable manner, to the western side of the Mississippi river, and will grant by patent in fee simple to them and their heirs forever, as long as they shall exist as a nation and remain upon the same, a tract of land to contain 100,000 acres, to be located, under the direction of the President of the United States, within the tract of land equal to fifty miles square which was granted to the Shawnee Indians of the state of Missouri," etc., also to defray the expenses of removal, to supply them with provisions to support them for one year after their arrival at their new residence, to erect a sawmill and gristmill and a blacksmith shop for them and to advance to them the sum of \$13,000 for improve-

ment purposes, the same "to be reimbursed from the sale of the lands herein ceded by them to the United States," and much more in formal treaty fashion, including the promise on the part of the Government to give to the Shawnees at their new home certain quantities of farming and domestic gear, twenty-five rifle guns and tools of a proper variety, besides which "it is understood by the present contracting parties that any claims which Francis Duchouquet may have under former treaties to a section or any quantity of the lands herein ceded to the United States are not to be prejudiced by the present compact, but to remain as valid as before," and also "at the request of the chiefs there is granted to Joseph Parks, a quarter-blooded Shawnee, one section of land, to contain 640 acres, at the old town near Wapaghkonnetta, in consideration of his constant friendship and many charitable and valuable services towards the said Shawnees; and at the request of the chiefs it is also stipulated that the price of an average section of the lands herein ceded shall be reserved in the hands of the Government to be paid to their friends, the Shawnees who now reside on the River Huron in the Territory of Michigan, for the purpose of bearing their expense should they ever wish to follow the Shawnees of Wapaghkonnetta and Hog creek to their new residence west of the Mississippi."

The narrative then goes on to say that at the conclusion of the negotiations and signing of the treaty, Henry Harvey, by direction of the chiefs, requested the commissioner to furnish him a copy of the treaty. On the day following, Gardner, while in a drunken condition, prepared an extract from the treaty, purporting to be a true copy of the instrument, and which was so illegibly written that Harvey remarks, "I could make no sense out of it." Mr. Harvey's account also has it that the subsequent transactions relating to the settlement of the claims of the traders, the aggregate of bills against the Indians approved by Gardner amounting to \$20,000, took place "when nearly all the parties were in a state of intoxication, except some of those wily traders who

had now got their large and no doubt unjust demands secured, and who, lest their deeds should some day come to light, burnt up all their books and fortified their claims behind the certificates of the Indians and these drunken Government officers, and that, too, out of the Shawnees' money and without their consent."

INDIANS APPEAL TO FRIENDS.

It then appears that the Indians presently became convinced that they had not been treated fairly and they appealed to the yearly meeting of the Society of Friends, then being held at Richmond, Ind., and a deputation from that body was instructed to proceed to Wapakoneta to investigate the transaction. This committee recommended that a petition be presented to Congress asking an additional compensation for the Indians and four chiefs, John Perry (then head chief), Waywealeapy, Blackhoof and Spybuck, together with Francis Duchouquet and Joseph Parks, as interpreters, and Henry Harvey and David Bailey, on the part of the Society of Friends, started for Washington. The deputation left Wapakoneta about the first of December. At Cumberland Francis Duchouquet, the old French trader and faithful interpreter at numerous treaty councils, was taken ill and was unable to proceed farther. He was left in the care of friends, but before the return of the deputation he died and was buried in a graveyard near that city.

This deputation was unsuccessful in its efforts to interest the executive department in the claims of the Indians and then, through Representative Joseph Vance, afterward Governor of Ohio, had the matter laid before the proper committee of Congress, which, as Mr. Harvey's narrative sets out, presently reported a bill in favor of the petitioners for \$30,000, to be paid in fifteen equal annual installments. "The bill presented by the chiefs called for \$100,000," says Mr. Harvey, "but the committee fearing that if they reported an allowance for that amount that it would be vetoed by the

President, it was afterward reduced to \$30,000 and became a law. A bill was afterward passed in 1853 allowing the Shawnees an additional amount for their lands of \$66,000. Thus, after a delay of more than twenty years the Government complied with the demands of justice so far as to grant the amount demanded by the Shawnees and Society of Friends on their behalf demanded for them in 1832. This satisfied the Indians, and the Government was none the loser, as the interest at 5 per cent would overreach the debt in that time."

Mr. Harvey's story then goes on to say that "at the conclusion of the treaty at Wapaghkonnetta, Gardner informed the Indians that he would remove them early in the next spring to their new homes, and as they had a large number of cattle and hogs, besides a great deal of other property, that they could not take with them to their new homes, that they had better sell all except what would do them through the winter and settle up their affairs; that in the spring their money for their improvements and their annuity of \$3,000 would be paid them as they would be about to start west. They took the advice of the commissioner and sold about 200 head of cattle, about 1,200 head of hogs and many other things and with the proceeds purchased clothing, some wagons, guns, provisions and the like, and many of them settled up their debts with their white neighbors so as to be in readiness to leave early in the spring following. But instead of receiving their money and starting on their journey early in the spring, as they expected, they did not receive any of their money until fall and did not start on their journey until the 20th of the next November. The Indians through their improvidence began to suffer greatly for want of food before spring. Many of them were at the point of starvation before relief could be obtained from the Society of Friends and from the Government. Henry Harvey went a distance of over eighty miles over exceedingly bad roads to Waynesville on the Miami river and begged a load of provisions for the children and old people."

It was in October that Gardner and the Indian agent, McElvain, appeared to pay the Indians their annuity, the money being brought up from Piqua, on horseback, in wooden kegs, and paid out from Gardner's headquarters in the woods at the northeastern edge of the village. It is narrated that among the visiting Indians present at the gathering was a Miami with a string of scalps which he asserted were scalps of white persons. "Being short of money to purchase fire-water for the festal occasion, he made numerous efforts to sell the scalps. His persistence so enraged the Shawnees that he was killed on the night following—his body being found the next morning on the bank of the mill race in the rear of the building known at the present time as Taeusch's store." It is said that after receiving their annuity the Indians entered upon a round of festivities and dissipation that lasted in most instances until their money was spent.

During the summer the Indians had leveled the graves of their dead, in accordance with aboriginal custom, and had destroyed or buried the property they could not sell. On November 20, 1832, under the direction of David Robb and D. M. Workman, Government agents, they started on their 800-mile journey to the lands beyond the Mississippi, the old Indians and children riding in wagons, the women on horseback and the men and larger boys on foot. By Christmas they had reached the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers and immediately began the erection of cabins and the establishment of themselves on their new reservation. It is said that the Shawnees and Senecas who made the winter journey numbered about 1,100. They were joined the next spring by the Hog creek tribe under the direction of Joseph Parks. The next year (1833), Henry Harvey and other Quakers visited them and obtained permission to establish schools and continue the work of the mission, and Mr. Harvey remained with them until 1842, when he and his family returned to Ohio.

And it was thus that the Indian departed and the white man came into full possession at Wapakoneta, the village

which sixteen years later became the seat of justice in and for Auglaize county, which was erected by an act of the Legislature in the year 1848.

A WORD REGARDING SOME OF THE OLD INDIAN CHIEFS.

One of the earliest recorded bits of reminiscence regarding the old Indian village at Wapakoneta is that written by Judge Burnet, of Cincinnati, who during territorial days rode a circuit which extended from the Ohio river to Detroit, which city at that time was the seat of justice for Wayne county, an indefinite expanse covering the upper part of the then Northwest Territory. As noted in Henry Howe's Historical Collections, "the jaunts between these remote places, through a wilderness, were attended with fatigue, exposure and hazard and were usually performed on horseback, in parties of two or three or more. On one of these occasions, while halting at Wapakoneta, Judge Burnet witnessed a game of ball among the people, of which he has given this interesting narrative:

"Blue Jacket, the war chief, who commanded the Shawnees in the battle of 1794 at Maumee, resided in the village but was absent. We were, however, received with kindness by the old village chief, Buckingelas. When we went to his lodge he was giving audience to a deputation of chiefs from some western tribes. We took seats at his request until the conference was finished and the strings of wampum were disposed of. He gave us no intimation of the subject matter of the conference and of course we could not, with propriety, ask for it. In a little time he called in some of his young men and requested them to get up a game of football for our amusement. A purse of trinkets was soon made up and the whole village, male and female, were on the lawn. At these games the men played against the women and * * * the party which succeeded in driving the ball through the stakes at the goal of their opponents were proclaimed victors and received the purse. * * * The parties seemed to be

fairly matched as to numbers, having about a hundred on a side. The game lasted more than an hour with great animation, and was finally decided in favor of the ladies by the power of an herculean squaw who got the ball and in spite of the men who seized her to shake it from her uplifted hand, held it firmly, dragging them along till she was sufficiently near the goal to throw it through the stakes. * * * When the contending parties had retired from the field of strife it was pleasant to see the feelings of exultation depicted in the faces of the victors, whose joy was manifestly enhanced by the fact that their victory was won in the presence of white men, whom they supposed to be highly distinguished and of great power in their nation. This was a natural conclusion for them to draw, as they knew we were journeying to Detroit for the purpose of holding the general court, which they supposed controlled and governed the nation. We spent the night very pleasantly among them and in the morning resumed our journey."

Concerning the origin of the place name, Wapakoneta, Mr. Howe's "Collections" state that "Col. John Johnston, agent among the Indians, appointed by Jefferson, thus wrote me in 1846: 'Wapagh-ko-netta—this is the true Indian orthography. It was named after an Indian chief long since dead, but who survived for years after my intercourse commenced with the Shawonese. The chief was somewhat clubfooted and the word has reference, I think, to that circumstance, although its full import I never could discover. For many years prior to 1829 I had my Indian headquarters at Wapaghkonetta. The business of the agency of the Shawonese, Wyandots, Senecas and Delawares was transacted there.' " Though Colonel Johnston was of course well informed concerning Indian nomenclature and traditions, he perhaps was no better informed than was Henry Harvey, the good Quaker missionary to the Indians at Wapakoneta, who, concerning this matter, says in his notable History of the Shawnees: "This village, I have learned, derived its name from an ancient and distinguished woman of that name, and

that it is a Shawnee word." Along this same line, Professor Williamson's history (1905) says: "The curiosity of some young gentlemen a few years ago led them to open the grave of Wapakoneta. In it they found beads of porcelain and glass of French manufacture, stone pendants and other fragments of ornaments customarily worn by Indian women. The discoveries seem to indicate that the statements of Harvey are correct." Further comment along this line is made in the chapter relating to the city of Wapakoneta.

OLD COUNCIL HOUSE AT WAPAKONETA.

Regarding the old council house at Wapakonta, the Indian capital of the Northwest, in which many a momentous council of the mighty of the tribes was held, Professor Simkins remarks that "the many sided character of the Indian might have been seen at these councils—the fidelity of a Logan, the rashness and violence of a Blue Jacket, the fidelity of a Captain Johnny, the frenzied lunacy of The Prophet; the 'gentleman of his race, as was Little Turtle; the ambitious zealot, as was Tecumseh; the heartless renegade, as was Girty, and the lofty honor of a Blackhoof. Here many of the greatest orators of the surrounding nations met to discuss their grievances and here it was, at these assemblies, that Blackhoof's counsels were considered oracles of wisdom and inspiration. It was to this town that Blue Jacket and Little Turtle came for warriors worthy their leadership and here Blackhoof repudiated Tecumseh as a pretender and denounced The Prophet as a fraud. It was Tarhe the Crane that came at last to win Blackhoof to the interest of Tecumseh and failed, and it was Winnemac, the mighty cruel Pottawattomie, that made a final effort to force Blackhoof to place his tribe in the hands of The Prophet and failed likewise."

Drake's "Tecumseh," written many years ago, still is regarded as one of the most authoritative utterances along the line of Indian history. Concerning Blue Jacket, or Weyapiersenwah, one of the most noted of the war chiefs of

the Shawnees, this work has it that in the campaign of General Harmar in 1790 Blue Jacket was associated with Little Turtle, the Miami chief, in the command of the Indians, and in the decisive battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 had chief control of the Indian forces which met defeat at the hands of General Wayne's command. In the month of October following this defeat Blue Jacket concurred in the expediency of suing for peace and at the head of a deputation of chiefs was about to bear a flag to General Wayne, then at Greenville, when the mission was arrested by foreign influence, Governor Simcoe, representing the British forces to the north, inviting the chiefs of the combined army to attend a meeting at the mouth of the Detroit at which he urged them to retain their hostile attitude toward the United States, promising them that if they could obtain a cessation of hostilities until the following spring the British would be ready to attack the Americans and by driving them back across the Ohio restore their lands to the Indians. These ineffectual counsels delayed the conclusion of peace until the following summer. Blue Jacket was present at the treaty of Greenville and conducted himself with moderation and dignity. He afterward was for some time engaged in the liquor traffic at Wapakoneta and then went West.

Concerning old Chief Blackoof, who lived to be 110 years of age and who is buried on the knoll where his last days were spent at the site of the present village of St. Johns east of Wapakoneta in this county, this same authority says that "among the celebrated chiefs of the Shawnees Blackhoof is entitled to high rank." He was born in Florida and migrated with his tribe north when a child, growing up in Pennsylvania from which point the Shawnees presently were pushed over into the Ohio country and moved about until their last stand was made at Wapakoneta. It is said that he was present at the battle which marked Braddock's defeat in 1755 and was engaged in all the wars in Ohio from that time until the treaty of Greenville in 1795, after which he laid down his arms nor ever again could be induced to engage in war with the whites. And thus it was that when in 1810-11 Tecumseh and his brother

The Prophet were seeking to effect a confederation of the tribes for the purpose of driving the whites out of the land to the Ohio, Blackhoof resisted all the wiles the genius of the one and the cunning of the other could offer "and by prudence and influence kept the greater part of his tribe from joining the standard of Tecumseh or engaging on the side of the British in the late (1812) war with England. In that contest he became the ally of the United States, and although he took no very active part in it he exerted very salutary influence over his tribe." It is said that Blackhoof was opposed to polygamy and to the practice of burning prisoners and he is reported to have lived for forty years with one wife and to have reared a numerous family of children. His death occurred in the summer of 1831 not long after his return from Washington on the mission to secure better terms for the sale of the Shawnee lands here, as narrated above.

THE STORY OF POLLY BUTLER

Tecumseh, who was slain in the battle of the Thames in October, 1813, was often a visitor to the council house at Wapakoneta and his brother, The Prophet, was for some years in the early '20s a resident there. He went West about 1825 and of his later fate nothing is known with any degree of certainty. It was during the time of the Prophet's ministrations at Wapakoneta and not long after Henry Harvey had been stationed there as superintendent of the Quaker mission that the Polly Butler incident occurred, an incident that has been recited in most of the books relating to Indian lore. Polly Butler was the daughter, by a Shawnee woman, of Richard Butler, one of the earliest of the traders among the Indians of this region and who was second in command at the time of St. Clair's defeat at the headwaters of the Wabash (Ft. Recovery) in 1791, being among those slain in that battle. Polly, who was living with the tribe at Wapakoneta, was accused of bewitching one of the tribe and at night fled for protection to the house of Mr. Harvey. The Prophet was at this time

“exorcising” a sick man who declared that he was suffering from witchcraft and the blame was laid on Polly, whose death The Prophet and the superstitious Indians demanded. Harvey had been visiting the sick man, carrying him food and comfort, and on one occasion found him lying on his face with his back so lacerated that he was in danger of death from loss of blood. The Prophet was present and when Harvey demanded to know the reason for this brutal treatment of his patient replied that the lacerations were made to extract the “combustible material” the witch had deposited. The good Quaker drove the Prophet out of the house and dressed the sick mans wounds.

When it became known that Polly Butler had found refuge in Harvey’s house the Prophet and some of his following made a search of the house, but as she had been secreted between two beds they failed to discover her. The chief, Weasecah or Captain Wolf, who was a friend of Harvey, then came to the missionary and accompanied him to the council house where the aroused Indians had gathered to discuss the matter, siding with the Prophet in the demand for the “witch.” Harvey told them he had come to intercede for the woman, but seeing that they had determined to follow their own course, he had prepared to offer himself in her stead and that they might do with him as they thought best if only they would spare the woman. At this noble and unexpected announcement Weasecah embraced Harvey “and begged the chiefs not to suffer their friend the Quaker to be harmed, but they were still determined not be submit to the proposition. He then offered his life instead of his friend’s. This heroic attitude of the Quaker, with the loyal and brave act of the noble chief, checked the tide of the hostile feeling and for a minute all were in suspense. Then chief after chief, to the number of six or eight, stepped up to Harvey, each offering his hand and saying ‘Me Quakelee friend.’ Weasecah then argued with them eloquently and at last the whole council offered their hands in friendship, The Prophet only excepted, who sullenly left the council house in defeat.

The poor woman remained in the Quaker's house for several days and then returned to her people and lived in peace."

Wayweleapy (Willipie), who has been mentioned above, was the principal speaker among the Shawnees at the period of their removal from Wapakoneta. Howe's "Collections" state that "he was an eloquent orator—either grave or gay, humorous or severe, as the occasion required. At times his manner was so fascinating, his countenance so full of varied expression and his voice so musical that surveyors and other strangers passing through the country listened to him with delight, although the words fell upon their ears in an unknown tongue." Willipie, who shares with Blackhoof the honor of having one of the chief streets in Wapakoneta named for him, was eighty years of age when he went West with his people in 1832 and he died there four years later.

There were others of these chiefs of whom the older chronicles speak kindly, including Logan, or Spemica Lawbe, one of the staunchest of the allies of the Americans at several critical junctures, to whom a special reservation of 640 acres of land was granted in the township in this county that bears his name, and after whom one of Wapakoneta's chief streets is named, as is set out elsewhere; John Wolf, or Lawatucheh, who has been referred to as "one of the most reliable and upright of the Indians" and who was long a constant aid to Colonel Johnston at the agency here; Pe-aitch-ta, or Fallen Timber who died but a short time before the Hog Creek Indians were moved West; Tu-taw, the noted scout and mail carrier during the campaigns of Wayne and Harrison, who did not accompany the Shawnees upon their departure for the West but preferred to remain here among his white friends, a retainer of Peter Hammel, his last days being spent here in trapping and hunting, his death occurring in his seventy-eight year and his body being given burial in the old Duchouquet graveyard; Bright Horn, or Wa-the-the-we-la, who was one of General Harrison's scouts during the War of 1812 and who died at Wapakoneta in the middle '20s; big Captain Johnny, another of Harrison's scouts, who had his vil-

lage on the west bank of Pusheta creek, where it enters the Auglaize, and who died and was buried there about 1819; Peter Cornstalk, who, like Blackhoof, after he had signed the treaty of Greenville was ever a good Indian and who has been referred to as "a man of honor and a true friend of the settlers in the Auglaize country," his home having been on the river about two miles below Wapakoneta until he moved West with his people, and others whose names the student and those curious concerning those days of long ago may find among the names attached to the several treaties negotiated hereabout, but a repetition of which is hardly essential to a review of this character.

An anonymous "Historical Jingle" appearing in Prof. J. D. Simkins' "Early History of Auglaize County" (1901) epitomizes very entertainingly and comprehensively the story of the Indians hereabout as follows:

THE SHAWNEES AT WAPAKONETA.

Astray in the wilderness, driven from home,
The Shawnees to Wapakoneta did roam.
The banks of Auglaize had hardly been found
Till Indian wigwams dotted the ground.

Here Wapakoneta, the chief of his tribe.
And Logan, the friend of the white man, reside;
Blue Jacket, as well as The Turtle so brave,
Selected such warriors no other tribe gave.

Tecumseh, pretender, was stripped of his mask
By Blackhoof, whose judgment then found it no task;
The Prophet (the wizard, the brother), bemeaned
And by the same oracle proven a fiend.

Here Johnny and Brighthorn met Logan, their friend—
Not chief of the Mingoes—he had no "revenge";
Here Johnston, the agent, selected the scout
Most daring by far of any 'twere out.

The hunter, the trapper, the trader met here
To deal in the peltry long year after year;
When Tarhe (The Crane) of Tecumseh had dreams,
To him our old Blackhoof exposed the bad schemes.

Here Winnemac, mighty, cruel Ottawa chief,
Did come to appease, but met with much grief;
He found he had roused such a terrible band
That it soon happened he fell at their hand.

Here Roundhead, the warrior, came Prophet to meet,
Saying, "If you're from Heaven I'll kneel at your feet,"
But our chiefs again the illusions dispell,
Denouncing the Prophet, the agent of hell.

Here Harvey, the Quaker, the witch doth save
By offering his life in place to the knave.
Here Senecas, Wyandots, Delawares join
The Ottawas, Shawnees for Samuel's coin.

The fiercest and proudest of Indian bands—
Their home was the center of Indian lands;
A council was here before a campaign—
A council was here when over again.

In this capital town for some forty odd years,
Our Samuel's Indian business appears;
Jefferson, Harrison, Cass inscribe
Some letters of note to this powerful tribe.

Cincinnati, Detroit, where the courts were held—
The judges through here to pass were compelled;
When they stopped over night, so pleased were the tribe,
The squaws and the bucks gave a dance on the side.

We took their last title by fraud and by force
And left the whole tribe but little recourse;
Wayweleapy, orator, sank in his tears
While showing his tribe "There is fraud it appears."

A committee was sent the Great Father to see
At Washington City and make a last plea;
Wayweleapy, Parks, Duchouquet and Buck
Joined Blackhoof and Perry to try for good luck.

The journey was long and the roads there were none,
The weather was cold—but little was done;
So civilization had leveled the Old
To give to the New a firmer hold.

Here witchcraft, polygamy, torture were stayed,
By the heart of the Quaker—not av'rice's blade;
Here Johnston, the agent, saw two thousand strong
Reduced to eight hundred by sickness and wrong.

Though their star it had set, they now wind again
Near eight hundred miles across the great plain;
As gloomy and sad they turn from their home,
You'll glorify virtues, their faults will condone.

The forest primeval has gone from us now—
The trails are all turned by the white man's plow;
While our liberty bell was ringing their knell,
It proclaimed to Progress that "All is well."

CHAPTER III

EARLY SETTLEMENT: THE PIONEER PERIOD.

Upon taking up a consideration of the days of early settlement and of the pioneer period of the region now comprised within the confines of Auglaize county the reader should keep in mind the fact set out in the preceding chapter that the Indians were still in possession of a large part of this region up to the early '30s, or until their cession of their lands here in 1831 and their departure for the West in the following year, these holdings having included the considerable reservation held by the Shawnees in the center of the county and that portion of the Logan reservation granted to the Senecas and surrounding Indian lake, which extended into the southeastern portion of the county in what is now Goshen township.

After the treaty of St. Marys in 1818 and the opening to settlement of the lands hereabout not otherwise reserved a few entries were made as early as in 1820, but there was no rush for land here as this then was still pretty generally regarded as Indian country. Mercer county and Allen county had been erected as civic organizations in 1820, but settlement throughout this entire region was sparse, the only particular activity along that line having been in the country surrounding the old St. Marys fort settlement, fourteen settlers having entered land in what is now St. Marys township, this county, in 1820, that township then having been included in Mercer county. In that same year one entry of land was made in what is now Noble township, John Wytand having taken up a small claim on the St. Marys river in section 22, about the center of the township, and in the next year (1821) Jonathan Taylor took up a claim just below the Wapakoneta reservation line in section 19 of Pusheta township, and Andrew Russell

entered claim to a small tract along the Auglaize adjoining the "Logan section" in Logan township.

Those who entered their claims in St. Marys township in 1820 were Thomas Scott, Charles Murray, Jonas Scott, John McCorkle, William A. Houston, David Mitchell, David Armstrong, Samuel Brunn, Robert Sleen, Leander Houston, James Botkin, John Hawthorn, Moses Larran and Asa Hinkle. Then, up to the time of the departure of the Indians, other landholding settlers entered St. Marys township, as follows: In 1822, Richard Barrington, Charles Smith and John Hawthorn; 1823, Joshua and Christian Benner; 1824, Jonathan Longworth; 1825, Pickett and Joseph Doute and Moses Sturgeon; 1826, John Inglebright; 1827, James Major and Nancy Carter; 1828, Albert Opdyke; 1829, Thomas Armstrong; 1830, William Botkin and John Helm, and in 1831, Elliott Cross, Charles Wilkin, and Charles L. Sims. Up to this latter year those besides Andrew Russell who had entered claims in Logan township were Dye Sunderland, James Crosier and Thomas Merryman; Goshen township, Daniel Black, adjoining the military land district; Wayne township, Joseph W. Bowdle, near the eastern edge of the township; Pusheta township (in addition to Jonathan Taylor, mentioned above), Benjamin Spray and Solomon Waymire; Washington township, Samuel N. McCullough, Thomas Chambers, Shadrach Montgomery and William Spray; Noble township (in addition to John Wyland, mentioned above), Charles Murray, Benjamin Tyrell, Lucas VanAusdale, Josiah Dungan, Jonas and John Wayland, William Sunderland, Israel and John Johns, Thomas Armstrong, R. V. and L. R. Brownell, William Jay and James Vanney, and in Salem township, Martin Overly, who took a claim in section 30, in the present Kossuth neighborhood.

When in 1828 Congress passed an act "to aid the state of Ohio in extending the Miami canal from Dayton to Lake Erie, and to grant a quantity of land to said state to aid in the construction of the canal authorized by law," etc., a strip of land equal in area to two and one-half miles in width on each side of the surveyed line of the canal from Dayton to



Early Representatives of Old Families of St. Marys.

the Maumee river was granted to the state, subject to the disposal of the Legislature, for the purpose of constructing the canal, this strip of state land thus extending up through Jackson, German, St. Marys, Noble and Salem townships in what later came to be Auglaize county, the prospective settlers thereafter having a choice between these canal lands and the Congress lands outside the Indian reservations and the military tract. Upon the departure of the Indians in 1832 a land office was established at Wapakoneta for the more convenient disposal of the reservation lands thus opened to entry and Robert J. Skinner was placed in charge of the same. These lands were quickly taken up, other public lands throughout this section gradually were disposed of as the settlers began to be attracted by the possibilities hereabout and in 1863 the land office was closed, all public lands within this district having been disposed of. Elsewhere, in the chapter relating to the townships of Auglaize county, will be found a list of all landowners in Auglaize county at the time of the county's erection in 1848, a list which perhaps properly may be regarded as a roster of "the fathers of Auglaize county," and to that the attention of the reader is directed in this connection.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF PIONEER CONDITIONS.

To the present generation, familiar with good roads, broad fields, well drained and tilled in accordance with the latest developments of agricultural science; beautiful farm houses and well kept farm plants, compact and orderly cities and villages, with paved streets, waterworks, electric lights, telephones, radio outfits and all the conveniences, comforts and aids that man has devised to better his scheme of living; automobiles instead of the lumbering ox carts wallowing through roadways all but impassible half of the year, daily newspapers brought to the doorways of all who would read, railways and electric traction lines giving speedy and safe intercourse between the cities, and countless other "modern im-

provements," it may be difficult clearly to visualize the situation in which the pioneers of this region found themselves.

There is a good deal of contemporary evidence carried in the older chronicles regarding the insufferable difficulties and discomforts attending travel in the days when the wilderness held almost undisputed sway throughout this region. For instance, in the reminiscences of Judge Burnet, who presided over the court from Cincinnati to Detroit in Territorial days and who, when he and the lawyers then riding the circuit attended the general court at Detroit, usually proceeded by way of the Miami trail from Cincinnati, up through Dayton and Piqua and thence by Loramies, St. Marys, Ft. Amanda and Defiance, it is narrated that one time the circuit riders upon returning from Detroit, arrived at Ft. Amanda, the old Ottawa town at the northern edge of this county, and found that Blue Jacket had returned from Cincinnati with a large quantity of whisky and that the Indians were on a high frolic. Being afraid to remain in the village under the circumstances, the Judge and his party struck out over the swampy path for St. Marys. The swales were swarming with gnats and mosquitoes. Night overtook them when about half way. There was no moon and the almost impenetrable forests closed about them blackly. Leading their stumbling horses, they neither could keep the trail nor see to avoid quagmires and thus wandered about all night, reaching St. Marys at sunrise.

From General Harrison's official report of his campaign throughout this region during the days of the War of 1812, it is noted that "the best ground for roads is along the water courses. The country is almost a continuous swamp to the lakes. It is almost impossible to get through the Black Swamp. The road from Loramie to St. Marys and thence to Defiance is almost one continuous swamp—knee deep to the pack horses and up to the hubs of the wagons. We are often unable to get the wagons along and many are left sticking in the mire and ravines, the wagoner being glad to get off with his horses alive." It is narrated that wagons often were one

month in making the passage of 105 miles from Cincinnati to Loramies, and two weeks in negotiating the remaining twelve miles up through what is now Auglaize county to St. Marys. In one instance, it is said, two teams with forage from Piqua to St. Marys, thirty miles, ate it all but six bushels while on the way. Such were the traffic conditions which faced the first comers here.

In the fall of 1812 Colonel Jennings' command cut a military road through the woods from St. Marys to Defiance and had 200 pack horses and 300 bullocks for transport service, but the almost continuous rains and the ever prevalent quagmires prevented any very effective use of such a highway and the streams continued to be the chief medium of transport, save the sometimes impassible portage from Loramies to St. Marys, and the forts at the latter point and at the old Ottawa town (Ft. Amanda) were the centers of distribution to Ft. Wayne, Defiance and the lake.

The records of that time, as an instance of the terrible straits men were put to in order to get stuff through the country, narrate that in December of that year and thus early in the memorable campaign, two hundred barrels of flour for the army were started down the St. Marys from the post of that name for Defiance, by way of Ft. Wayne and the Maumee, the twenty dugouts and canoes being in charge of twenty men and three officers. It took the flotilla one week to reach Rockford (Shanes Crossing), less than twenty miles as the crow flies from St. Marys, though, according to one authority, little less than 100 miles by the winding river, which was full of fallen logs and obstructed by overhanging trees. The boats were caught in ice at Rockford, the weather having turned intensely cold, and one of the officers was sent back to St. Marys to report. He returned to the flour and offered the men extra pay if they would cut their way through the ice. They tried, made a mile in two days and gave up, leaving a squad to guard the flour. Just before Christmas a thaw enabled the party to proceed, but another freeze came on before they got to Ft. Wayne and the provisions were

transported on sledges the remaining distance to that fort, but no further effort was made to get them on to Defiance. When the settlers presently began coming up this way to make their homes in the wilderness conditions were the same as those set out in the authentic military reports and it thus easily may be imagined what the pioneers struggled through in getting here. A brave and plucky breed; all honor to them!

FIRST PERMANENT WHITE SETTLER.

Not counting Francis Duchouquet, the French trader and long the interpreter for the Indians at Wapakoneta, who had come down from the north country and established a trading post not long after the Shawnees had taken up their abode at that point, Charles Murray, also a "squaw man," who in 1795 had bought out the trading outfit that James Girty, of infamous memory, had established some years before at the head of the portage of St. Marys, this post giving the early name of "Girty's Town" to the place, may perhaps be accounted the first permanent white settler in what is now Auglaize county. Murray continued to operate his trading post after the troublous times during the War of 1812 and was thus at St. Marys when in 1820 lands were opened to entry here, and was one of the first to enter land, he and William A. Houston and John W. McCorkle in that year having filed on lands now occupied by the St. Marys town site and in the summer of 1823 these three united in laying out and filing for record the original plat of the city of St. Marys. Professor Simkins' reminiscences have it that Murray's cabin and trading post were situated along the river at a point where the Lake Erie & Western railway crosses that stream and where the canal in time came to be cut through, just about the present heart of the city. The year of these entries (1820) was the year in which Mercer county was erected, St. Marys at that time having been in that county, and William A. Houston was a brother of John S. Houston, surveyor of that county

and one of the surveyors who helped run the lines through this region when it was being formally "laid out."

Concerning Murray, it is narrated in the reminiscences of Judge Edwin M. Phelps, who had so thorough a first-hand acquaintance with the pioneer history of this region, that "when he (Murray) came to St. Marys is not known with certainty, but it was before the War of 1812 and possibly soon after the treaty of Greenville. He was an Irishman and a trader. He bought all his goods at Detroit and brought them on pack horses. He died about 1831-2 and was buried in what is known as Murray's graveyard. When he was first known he had an Indian wife—a Shawnee—but as he prospered and the whites began to come in, he wanted a white one and found and married one at Piqua. This enraged the Shawnee and she threatened revenge. Finally she proposed that they should each take a rifle and go out in the woods a certain distance and each should be at liberty to fire at sight. She went out and he followed, but as soon as he got an opportunity to hide himself he sneaked back to his trading hut. She looked all through the woods for him, but finally concluded that he had run back. She went straight to his cabin and he was there. She drew up and he begged. She replied: 'Ugh! you cowardly pale face—mean man—I shoot you now.' and fired away and hit him in the shoulder. She kept him in constant alarm until he bought her off by paying her \$300. She kept her contract with him and never afterward disturbed him.

"At the time of the treaty (1818) Murray was in jail at Troy, Ohio, awaiting his trial for the murder of one Thraikes. Thraikes and his two sisters lived in the old blockhouse. Murray had some grudge against him and waylaid him between the two crossings of the Loramie, at a deep hollow ever since known as Thraikes run, and caused a hired man of his, one Myers, to shoot him. Murray was afterward tried at Troy, but was acquitted upon the ground that Myers was simple minded and fired without his orders. He used to say, however, that 'nothing went well with him afterward,' "

Murray's two children, George and Eliza, by his white wife, are supposed to have been the first white children born within the confines of what is now Auglaize county.

At the time of the treaty of St. Marys (1818), according to Professor Williamson, there were not more than six or eight families residing at that point and they occupied the blockhouse. These blockhouses which had been erected under direction of General Harrison by Colonel Barbee as immediate outposts of the fort erected at St. Marys in the fall of 1812, were very serviceable adjuncts to the fort, each having been surrounded by a stout stockade ten feet in height. An excellent spring provided water for the occupants. One of these blockhouses, it is narrated, stood on the ground now occupied by the city building at St. Marys and the other on the lot later occupied as the residence of Christian Buehler. The fort proper—Ft. Barbee, so named for the colonel under whose command it was erected—stood at the point now occupied by the Lutheran cemetery on the southeastern edge of the town and on the opposite side of the river was established a burying ground for the bodies of those of the soldiers who died during the time of the fort's occupancy. There also was another military burying ground just south of the present Lutheran cemetery. As Professor Simkins observes in his reminiscences, "near such trading posts and forts, questionable characters and halfbreeds usually had a settlement known as 'Squaw Town.' There was such a place on the south side of the Reservoir branch just south of St. Marys."

THE MEMORABLE TREATY OF ST. MARYS.

The conclusion of that notable series of treaties between the Indians and commissioners of the Government at St. Marys in the fall of 1818 and which was the last great assemblage of Indian nations in Ohio, was an event of great historical importance throughout the then rapidly developing new states of Ohio and Indiana and the then territories of Michigan and Illinois. The meeting attendant on the negotiation

of these treaties and beginning on September 17, 1818, was the occasion of the foregathering of the chief men, sachems, chiefs and warriors of the Wyandot, Seneca, Shawnee, Ottawa, Delaware, Pottawattomie, Miami, Wea and Chippewa nations and was attended by many stirring events, the grave formalism of governmental procedure and the showy maneuvers of attendant troops of cavalry and infantry broken by the constant exhibitions of barbaric prowess on the part of the assembled Indian "braves," all providing a picture that must have indelibly impressed itself upon the minds and imaginations of all present. Although the real business of the meeting did not commence until the 20th of September, it is narrated that the chiefs and warriors of western and north-western Ohio, in addition to those of Indiana, Illinois and of Michigan began to assemble in the latter part of August and by the 12th of September representatives of all the Indian nations in interest were encamped alongside the west bank of the St. Marys river, this encampment extending from old Ft. St. Marys, south of the present city, to the point now occupied by the old cemetery north of the city. The boarding houses, "pitches" of the traders and barracks for the assembled soldiers were erected at intermediate points between the two forts, extending from what is now Spring street south to beyond the Lutheran cemetery or to the bank of the river.

The United States commissioners were accompanied by the Governors of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan and were escorted by a troop of Kentucky cavalry. The public dignitaries and their secretaries, agents and officers were entertained at the boarding house of old Charlie Murray, above referred to, and the Edsalls, the house of the latter standing at about the point now occupied by the little brick house, formerly known as Pickett Douet's house, at the southern terminus of Main street. Judge Phelps's reminiscences have it that the Edsalls had been keeping a tavern at Greenville and having knowledge of the approaching treaty they came up from Greenville, along with David Armstrong, a son of Judge John Armstrong, and became established at St. Marys, whence

they some years later moved to Shanes Prairie and thence to Ft. Wayne. The Indians were encamped by tribes all round. The timber had been cut off by Harrison's men during the campaigns of 1812-13, but at the time of the treaty it was heavily overgrown with second growth and was rapidly reverting to its original wilderness state. The traveling traders were early on the ground with every conceivable variety of goods calculated to please the fancies of the Indians and adventurers of various hardened types also were present in numbers. During the month that the Indians were encamped in front of the forts many thousands of dollars worth of furs were given in exchange for articles displayed by the traders and, "in addition to these supplies, smugglers, located in retreats known only to the Indians, furnished them with 'fire-water' that was the cause of many sanguinary contentions." By which latter clause it will be observed that the detestable offense of "bootlegging," so common in certain quarters in the present generation was perhaps quite as widely practiced, on occasion, a century and more ago throughout this region.

THE PROWESS OF THE GREAT KOLITSAH

Aside from the business connected with the negotiation of the treaties, for which they were assembled, the Indians spent their leisure hours in sports of various kinds. It is narrated that pony races were of daily occurrence and were the cause of many a fight around the camp fires at night when the wagers of the day were being settled, for the Indian ever has been an inveterate gambler—one of the vices he did not have to learn from the white brother. The game of football, an exceedingly popular athletic contest between the Indians, as has been set out in the previous chapter, also was one of the notable daily diversions of the assembled redskins and an old story of the meeting has it that "the officers and attendants never tired of witnessing the game." Then there were foot races and wrestling matches, both also popular sports with the Indians and eagerly watched by the whites present.

It is said that among the numerous Indians of unusual strength and agility none surpassed in prowess the great Kolitsah, who stood over six feet in stature and weighed more than two hundred pounds. Judge McCullough, describing Kolitsah in his reminiscences, said of him that "he was the most perfect specimen of physical manhood I have ever looked upon and I am confident he could out-jump or throw down any man in the Northwest." It is narrated that pending the negotiations a grand hopping match was arranged and that Kolitsah outdistanced all competitors by clearing fifty feet at two hops and a jump. A wrestling match was arranged between Tom Wilson, a then noted wrestler, and the Indian. Kolitsah bet his wrought silk belt against Judge McCullough's silk neckkerchief that he could throw Wilson.

"The contestants took holds," continues Judge McCullough's narrative, "and Kolitsah allowed his antagonist to exert his utmost before himself taking the aggressive. Wilson employed every art and energy, but all in vain. The Indian appeared planted and could not be moved. At length Kolitsah said, 'Now me,' and lifting Wilson, laid him upon the ground as he would a child. A second trial ended with the same result and Wilson gave up the contest. At the conclusion, Kolitsah returned the necktie to Judge McCullough, saying that it was too easily won. At another time, a Kentucky negro, noted for his great strength, was pitted against the Indian. The contest was sharp and decisive. The 'Now me' of the Indian was uttered sooner than it was in the contest with Wilson. The negro was thrown to the ground with great violence. Arising from the ground in a great passion, he was thrown a second time. Again arising from the ground he threatened to whip the Indian, but fighting was not permitted."

It also is narrated that in 1832 Kolitsah wrestled with John Norris, a soldier of the War of 1812 and a great braggart, at West Liberty, down in the neighboring county of Logan. The Indian appeared at the town on a challenge from Norris and on the day appointed a large crowd was present

to witness the contest. A ring was formed and after a few preliminaries the contest began. It quickly became apparent that Norris had made a grave mistake, the contest, brief and decisive, hardly being worth the name. With his irresistible "grape-vine twist" Kolitsah snapped a leg of his antagonist as if it had been a pipestem. The friends of Norris interposed, crying "You have broken his leg, Kolitsah!" The imperturbable Indian only replied, "Leg must be rotten," and left Norris to be borne from the field.

During the time of the treaty negotiations at St. Marys the representatives of the several Indian nations present were well provided with provisions. Drovers of cattle and hogs, corn meal, salt and sugar were furnished by the general Government and upon these articles and the game brought in by the Indian hunters they fared sumptuously every day.

SOME MEMORIES RELATING TO THE OLD FORTS.

Auglaize county is rich in recollections and traditions concerning the forts that were a stanch defense hereabout in the days of Indian trouble. In the graphic picture, a reproduction of a faithful drawing of the period, presented elsewhere in this work, in the chapter relating to Wapakoneta, the county seat, and portraying the scene as it was in the days of Indian occupancy here, there is delineated very clearly a picture of old Ft. Auglaize, which was still standing long after the Quaker mission was established at that point. The site of this old fort thus is shown to have been just around the bend of the river as the stream enters the present city limits and from the presentation that has thus been preserved must have been a quite extensive and substantial structure, the stockade and blockhouses clearly having been designed to resist most any sort of an attack from mere bows and arrows. It is typical of the woodland forts of that period. Ft. Auglaize had its inception when the French trading post of Francis Duchouquet was established there at the Indian village at the point then considered the head of transport on the Auglaize

and the stockade was designed chiefly as a source of protection to the trader's stores against the possibility of a raid by a marauding band. During the time of the War of 1812 when Harrison's men were on duty throughout this region, particularly guarding the waterways, the old French stockade was materially strengthened and was used as a base of supplies.

It was during the time of the War of 1812 that Ft. Amanda was erected under General Harrison's orders on the commanding site of the old Ottawa village on the west bank of the Auglaize at about what now is the northern border of Auglaize county, in section 22 of Logan township. This fort was used as a supply depot and halting place for the troops operating throughout this region. The fort, or pallisade, was a substantial structure and effectually commanded the passage of the Auglaize.

When General Harrison established his temporary headquarters at St. Marys in September, 1812, he ordered Col. Thomas Poague to clear and construct a wagon road through the wilderness from St. Marys to Defiance. This road was completed some time in October, when the regiment returned to a point on the west bank of the Auglaize and erected a fort, which, in honor of Colonel Poague's wife, whose name was Amanda, was given the name which thus has become historical. The soldiers who died there during the time of the military occupancy of this fort were buried in a plot on the north side of the ravine, just north of the fort, and in 1915 the state, acting in conjunction with the federal Government, through an appropriation previously granted, erected at that point the beautiful shaft, a picture of which is presented in this work. The bronze tablet on this monument declares the memorial shaft to have been "erected by a grateful people to the memory of the pioneer soldiers of Ohio and other states who fell in defense of their homes from Indian depredations and in the War of 1812." On this tablet it also is set out that the fort was "erected by order of General William H. Harrison in October, 1812, and became an important depository of army stores during the war."

Happily, from such contemporary descriptions as were available the memorialists were able to portray on the tablet a presentment of the fort as it stood in a partial clearing in the woods, this presentment, as will be noted by the picture of the tablet here presented, showing a stout stockade with two-story blockhouses in each corner and a store house in the center. It is said that the stockade inclosed a rectangular area of about an acre and one-half, the pickets being eleven feet in height off the ground and four feet in the ground. The blockhouse in the southeast corner was the largest and was used for officers' quarters. The second story of the central store house was used as a hospital and a well near the central building furnished an abundance of good water. It is said that there was stable room enough in the enclosure to accommodate 1,200 horses. The hospital soon was crowded with sick and wounded soldiers brought here by boat from the battle fields along the Maumee. The regimental surgeon, Dr. Jacob Lewis, thus had his hands full, for he also had to visit the sick at the fort at Wapakoneta (Ft. Auglaize) and the fort at St. Marys, and he was given valuable assistance by the army chaplains, Rev. Samuel Shannon and Rev. James Suggette, and the army paymaster, John Smith.

During the war Ft. Amanda served as a retreat for scouts, dispatch carriers and officers traveling from Cincinnati, Franklinton (Columbus) and Ft. McArthur to the armies in the north. During the winter of 1812-13 the garrison at this fort was constituted a shipbuilding company, one detachment being detailed to select trees, another to cut them down, a third to saw them into boards and posts and another to convert the lumber into flatboats. It is recorded that no fewer than seventy-five boats thus were constructed in the spring of 1813. On April 28 of that year, Gen. Green Clay, of Kentucky, on a forced march arrived at Ft. Amanda and with 1,200 men embarked on these boats and sped down the Auglaize and the Maumee to the relief of Ft. Meigs, then besieged by the British and Indians. Some of that fleet of boats were used by

Commodore Perry in buoying his larger vessels over the shallows at Put-in-Bay on the day of his celebrated victory.

This pioneer shipyard, here in the Auglaize wilderness, was located on the east bank of the river, just across from the fort. At the close of the war in 1814 the occupants of Ft. Amanda were mustered out of service and the historic blockhouses thus became tenantless. Not for long, however, for in January, 1817, Peter Diltz and his family came up here from Dayton and occupied one of the blockhouses, the one in the northeast corner of the quadrangle, and settled down. In the following June, Andrew Russell arrived with his family and took possession of the blockhouse that had been used as officers' quarters and there he spent the remainder of his life, dying in April, 1822, and was buried in the military cemetery. For some months after their arrival here in 1817 the family of William VanAusdal also made their home in the old fort, occupying the storehouse in the center of the stockade until they presently got up a house of their own on land in section 15.

FT. AMANDA MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION.

The Ft. Amanda monument was unveiled on July 5, 1915, with appropriate ceremonies and in the presence of a large and interested assemblage gathered from Allen and Auglaize counties, together with representatives from adjacent counties and other parts of the state and was an impressive occasion. The Government was represented by Hon. Gaylord M. Saltzgaber, of VanWert, Ohio, United States commissioner of pensions, who was the orator of the day, and Auglaize county was represented on the reception committee by Judge F. C. Layton, and M. D. Shaw, of Wapakoneta, and T. A. Bowsher, of Buckland. The chairman of this committee was Judge George H. Quail, of Lima. Among the members of the arrangements committee were Adam Schaffer, of Wapakoneta, and Alva Noble, of St. Marys.

The movement which resulted in the erection of this monument was inaugurated at a meeting called by William Rusler, who resides in the neighborhood of the old fort, over the line in the adjacent county of Allen, and held at Lima on February 4, 1913, at which time the Ft. Amanda Memorial Association was formed and later incorporated, the object of this voluntary association being to create a sentiment in favor of a memorial at the site of the old fort. Jacob B. Sunderland, of Spencerville, a grandson of Dye Sunderland, a soldier of the Revolution and one of the earliest settlers in what is now Auglaize county, who upon coming here for a time occupied one of the blockhouses in the fort and who was buried in the military cemetery adjoining the fort, was elected president of the association; Rollin R. Zurmehly, secretary, and vice presidents, C. W. Williamson, of Wapakoneta, Daniel Harpster, of West Cairo, and Mrs. W. L. McKenzie, Mrs. B. M. Moulton, Mrs. S. J. Derbyshire, Mrs. James Sullivan, Thomas H. Jones, the Rev. M. C. Howey, Clinton Hoover and Dr. George Hall, all of Lima. The co-operation of Governor Cox presently was enlisted in favor of the project and he encouraged the passage of a bill in the Legislature appropriating the sum of \$5,000 to provide for the erection of a suitable memorial at the site of the old fort.

This bill was passed in April, 1913, and the Governor appointed a commission of three to provide plans for the memorial, this commission being composed of Alva V. Noble, of St. Marys, who was elected chairman of the same; William Rusler, who had fathered the idea and who was elected secretary, and William L. McKenzie, of Lima. This commission established the definite site of the old fort and purchased from Clarence Lathrop, then the owner of the land, a tract of two and one-half acres surrounding the site and decided to cause the erection of a monument on the same. In due time the design this monument was to take was determined, the contract for the stone work was let to a mausoleum concern and the shaft was erected on the site, the dedi-

catory services taking place a little more than two years after the inception of the project.

As noted in a contemporary account of the ceremonies attending the unveiling of the monument, "rugged simplicity characterizes the design and the material of the monument, symbolic of the character and lives of the men whom it commemorates." The shaft, as will be noted by inspection of the picture of the same presented here, is in obelisk form, towering nearly fifty feet in height, and is of gray granite. The great block forming the base of the monument is carved in similitude of the upright logs forming the walls of the old pallisade. On the face of the first tier of stones forming the shaft is a carving of crossed flags and just below is the bronze tablet carrying the presentment of the fort and the inscription setting out the circumstances upon which the memorial is based. The Lima chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented a flag staff, which was set up alongside the monument, in accordance with United States garrison regulations, and entered into an undertaking to keep the flag flying there. The affairs of the Ft. Amanda Memorial Association are looked after by a board of trustees, the initial officers of which were H. D. Bowsher, president; William Neff, vice-president, and C. N. Breese, secretary and treasurer, the other members being Clarence Lathrop, J. B. Sunderland, R. R. Kennedy, H. J. Sunderland, Dr. J. H. Blattenberg, D. W. Whetstone, J. B. Edman, W. H. McKenzie, Lehr Miller, R. R. Zurmehly, Dr. A. Bice and C. A. Hoover.

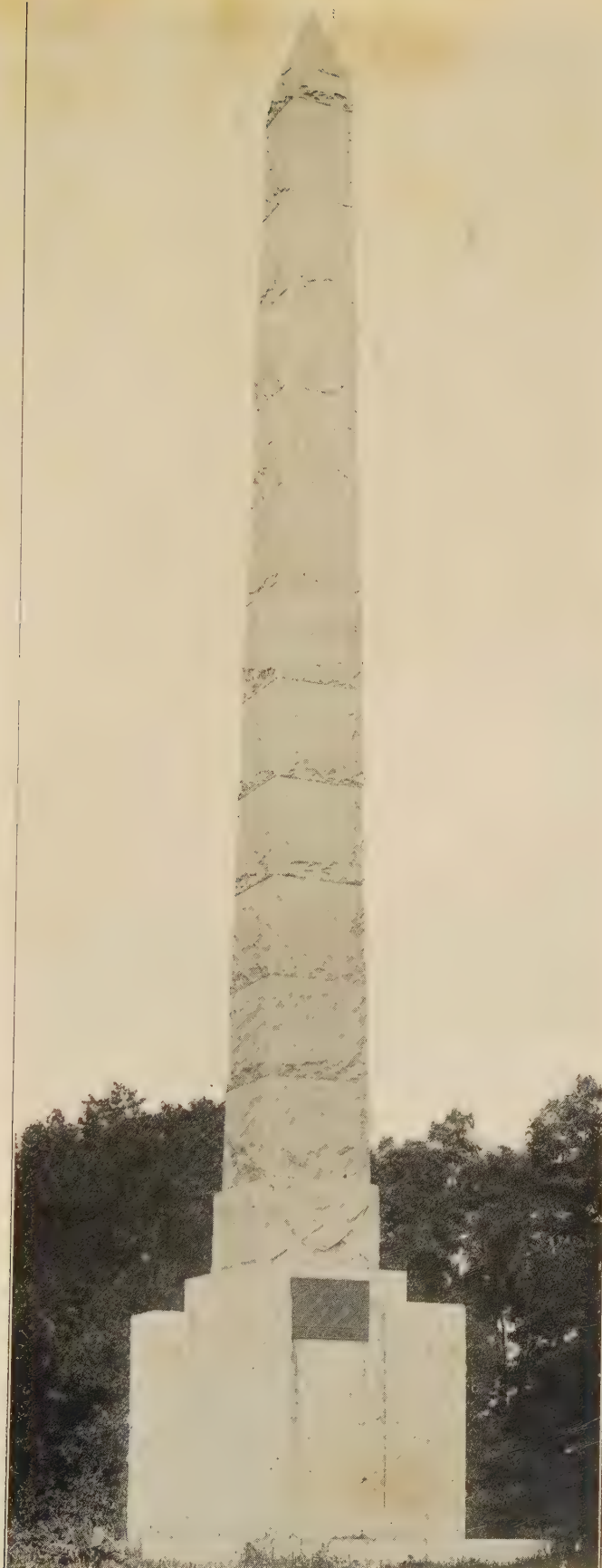
In its account of the dedicatory ceremonies attending the unveiling of this monument, *The Auglaize Republican* said that "it is estimated that fully five thousand people from Allen and Auglaize counties witnessed the unveiling of the monument. * * * The patriotic fervor was unbounded and it reached its climax when the whole assemblage arose and joined in singing 'The Star Spangled Banner' as the flag presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution was run to the head of the flagstaff." At the last session

of the Legislature Representative Copeland of this county secured an additional appropriation of \$2,850, now available, for the purchase of additional land surrounding the site of the monument, for fencing the tract and for further extension of the interests of the monument association. In the spring of 1922 representatives of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society visited the site of the monument for the purpose of making a survey preliminary to further recommendations respecting the care and preservation of the historic spot, and it now is considered likely that additional land will be bought and the state there create a park commensurate with the importance of the site thus marked.

NEED OF HISTORICAL MARKERS.

There are numerous sites of historic interest in this county that remain unmarked and the attention of the historical society has been called to these. The site of Ft. Auglaize at Wapakoneta, of Ft. Barbee and the treaty grounds at St. Marys, the old Wayne military trail and other points concerning which mention heretofore has been made, will come under the scope of the survey that probably soon will be made in this behalf. This is an age when men are hurrying to and fro, and tourists find it deeply interesting to note the spots of historic interest along the lines of their journeyings. Without markers or monuments they have no way of locating these spots, and—unhappily—too often it is that the neighbors are as ignorant of the significance of the site as the veriest stranger.

It evidently was the design of the late Prof. Charles W. Williamson, of Wapakoneta, to erect a series of markers in this county, for after his death there were found among his effects two well designed and admirably carved stones, about the size of the ordinary old fashioned grave stone, one to the memory of Wapakoneta, the Indian chief after whom the city of Wapakoneta was named, and the other to the memory of old Chief Blackhoof, whose last days were spent within



Ft. Amanda Memorial Shaft.

the tract now included in Auglaize county and who after the treaty of Greenville remained a firm friend and ally of the whites. These stones are identical in size and form and in the top panel of the face of each stone is the legend: "U. S. Soldier, War of 1812." On each there is a second panel which is left blank. On the third or lower panel of one is the legend: "Wapakoneta—A Noted Indian Chief—Died 1788." On the other stone is this legend: "Blackhoof—Chief of the Shawnee Tribe of Indians—Born in Florida in 1711—Died in St. Johns, June, 1831." When Professor Williamson's effects were being disposed of there were no claimants for these stones and they were turned over to the city, with a view perhaps to their eventual proper disposition. They ever since have been stored in the engine house in the city hall and no doubt some time will be placed at the traditional site of the burial place of the old chiefs, that of Wapakoneta in the vicinity of what is known as the Lima bridge across the river just to the northeast of Wapakoneta, and that of Blackhoof on the hill which bears his name in the immediate vicinity of St. Johns.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR WILLIAMSON.

Professor Williamson, who had for many years given much attention to archaeological and historical research throughout this section of the state and a good bit of whose writing along this line has been quoted in this volume, died at Bradentown, Fla., at which place he had for some years prior to his death spent his winters, on December 31, 1918. In its issue following the death of this useful citizen *The Auglaize Republican* said that "the death of Mr. Williamson removes one of the most distinguished men of Wapakoneta and one who has been more actively identified with local educational interests than any other man in the county. He was a man of exceptional ability in his chosen profession and possessed unusual attainments in science and letters. He was one of the most learned geologists in the state and besides

was a practical surveyor and a scientist who was ever abreast of the times. It is said that he made known the principles of the transmission of sound through the medium of an electric current long before Alexander Bell announced the erection of the first telephone. It was also due to him that the early Indian history of Auglaize county and the story of the various campaigns against the redmen in northwestern Ohio were preserved for future generations. His volume on 'Our Pioneer History,' published a few years ago, is of inestimable value, as it contains stories of pioneer life, gathered from old settlers, which would have perished before many years had passed away. It was the work of a lifetime, but unfortunately it was not written until he was well along in years.

"For more than a quarter of a century Professor Williamson was superintendent of the Wapakoneta public schools and in this manner he became known and respected by all the children, especially by those who have graduated. Although his work might not meet the demands of the present day, in his time he was a teacher who was far above the ordinary.

"Prof. Charles W. Williamson was born in Perry county, Ohio, May 12, 1835, and traces his ancestry in this country back as far as the coming of the 'Mayflower,' in which one of the Williamsons came to this country. * * * Professor Williamson's paternal grandfather, Washington Williamson, was a Virginian by birth and followed the calling of a land surveyor. He was one of the tried and faithful soldiers of the Revolution and was a nephew of General Williamson. About 1800 he came down the Ohio river on a flatboat, but being exposed to a pouring rain when coming down with measles, he caught a severe cold which resulted in his death in 1805, at Marietta, Ohio, of consumption. John W. Williamson, the professor's father, was the only child of his parents and was born and reared in Perry county, Ohio. He was an honest tiller of the soil and died in Seneca county, Ohio, in 1885, leaving a family of five children—Charles W., Angelina, wife of Lewis Conant, of Osceola, Mo.; Mary J.,

wife of James Kelley; Charlotte, wife of S. Faurot, and Dr. Milton Williamson, of Findlay, Ohio. The mother of these children was Elizabeth Wiseman prior to her marriage, a German by descent, whose ancestors followed agricultural pursuits.

“Professor Williamson was brought up on a farm until he attained his majority. He witnessed and experienced the hardships and privations of pioneer life and from the time he could cut out a chip he swung an ax until he had cleared two farms. His youth and early manhood were almost wholly spent in the conflicts and rough experiences that mark the first settlers in a new country. Upon attaining his twenty-first year he entered Heidelberg College at Tiffin, Ohio, graduating in 1858. This was accomplished after years of arduous labor, for he was compelled to teach in order to defray his collegiate expenses, and it is but one of the instances illustrating the will power of the man. In the meantime he studied law and attended the Union Law College at Cleveland, from which he was graduated in 1863. Shortly after his graduation he devoted himself to his former occupation of teaching. In the year 1868 he took charge of the public schools at Wapakoneta, but declined a re-election in 1879 and turned his attention to engineering and surveying roads in Auglaize county. In 1880 he accepted the position of superintendent of schools at Napoleon, but two years later resigned his position to buy a half interest in the *Allen County Democrat*, of which he was the able editor for one year. He then became superintendent of the schools at New Bremen and four years later was again elected superintendent of the Wapakoneta public schools, which position he retained until his retirement some years ago. In 1870 Professor Williamson was married to Maria L. Timmonds, a native of Mercer county, and to this union one son, Howard Williamson, an attorney at Dayton, Ohio, was born. Mrs. Williamson died about two years ago and since then the deceased lived alone at his home on West Pearl street.”

THE TRAGIC FATE OF CAPTAIN DAWSON.

Before passing from a review of the activities of old Ft. Amanda, mention must be made of the tragic fate which befell Capt. Enoch Dawson at that point. Colonel Poague had placed Captain Dawson in charge of the erection of the fort and the latter was making good headway. One day he placed his company temporarily in charge of Lieutenant Nungester and wended his way down the river a short distance to gather wild grapes which grew there in great abundance. The record of the incident has it that he was gone but a few moments before the report of a rifle was heard. When found by a detachment from the fort Captain Dawson was dead and had been scalped. His men returned his body sorrowfully to the fort and buried it there along the ravine, nearby the spot now marked by the great shaft which rises there. There is still growing at the spot said to have been the point where Captain Dawson met his fate a great grape vine, which for the hundred years and more of settlement here has been regarded as an arboreal wonder. Years ago, before it had been hacked and riddled by curious souvenir hunters, this enormous grape vine was the wonder of all beholders, its singular attachment to the great tree alongside which it grew attracting the particular attention and interest of visiting botanists and horticulturists from all over the country. Unfortunately, in these days of tourists of the idly curious sort, the giant grapevine has been attacked in so many destructive ways that its century old prestige is rapidly passing. Tradition has it that it was while gathering grapes from this vine Captain Dawson was slain by a cunningly hidden red-skin.

Ft. St. Marys, or Ft. Barbee, later so called after Colonel Barbee who rebuilt it, was one of the most important of the chain of forts erected along the waterways of northwestern Ohio under order of General Wayne (Mad Anthony) during his memorable and decisive campaign of 1794 and was chiefly designed as a supply depot for the army. During the time a

garrison was maintained within the pallisade the fort was under the command of Capt. John Whistler, who had come to this country as a youthful soldier under Burgoyne and was taken prisoner at Saratoga during the War of the Revolution. Upon the conclusion of the war he decided to make his home in this country and entered the army of St. Clair in the west, acting as sergeant in the disastrous battle at the headwaters of the Wabash (Ft. Recovery) in 1791. He survived that defeat and in 1793 was raised to the rank of ensign, from which he rose to a captaincy in Wayne's army and commanded in succession Ft. Barbee, Ft. Wayne and Ft. Dearborn (Chicago). Ft. Barbee stood on the west bank of the St. Marys river, at about the point now covered by the Lutheran cemetery on the south edge of the town, and became the nucleus of the settlement of the present thriving city of St. Marys.

GENERAL HARRISON RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION HERE.

It was while he was stationed at St. Marys that General Harrison received his commission as a major general in the United States army, before that time having been acting under commission from Governor Scott of Kentucky. Harrison's quarters at St. Marys were within a block house he caused to be erected on what is now Spring street at the corner occupied by the First National Bank of St. Marys, and it is said that the logs from which this blockhouse was constructed later served as a source of firewood for Capt. John Elliott, the former Government blacksmith at the Shawnee village at Wapakoneta, who upon leaving the latter place established his permanent home at St. Marys and became one of the leaders in the pioneer life of that community. It was Captain Collins who commanded a body of riflemen from Butler county (Ohio) who cut and reopened a wagon way along the old Wayne army trace from Loramies to St. Marys and was stationed at the latter point for some months during the time of the War of 1812.

In Captain Collins' interesting reminiscences of that period he gives the following account of the election of Richard M. Johnson as colonel of the regiment: "The troops were drawn up on parade in a solid column. There was a gentleman of good appearance in front, facing the column, engaged in delivering a speech to the soldiers. After I had taken a position where I could see and hear I recognized in the orator Richard M. Johnson, a lawyer whom I had formerly seen in Kentucky and who, I understood, was a member of Congress from that state. The regiment was about to elect a colonel and he was a candidate for that office. In the course of his remarks he observed that if they should elect him as their commander he would in all times of danger take a position where he would most likely receive the first fire of the enemy. He was elected and literally and most gallantly redeemed this pledge at the battle of the Thames." There are no official markers in and about St. Marys distinguishing the numerous points of historical interest there, and there inevitably is arising in this generation a considerable degree of confusion respecting the exact locations of some of the buildings connected with the old garrison, fact and tradition mingling so uncertainly as to render somewhat cloudy, if not doubtful, the claims of some of the sites now pointed out as having been the sites of important positions during those troublous days of more than a century ago.

Though Ft. Loramie, strictly speaking, did not stand within the territory now embraced within the borders of Auglaize county, its position just below the southern edge of the county and its relation to the forts above mentioned bring it properly within the range of the present discussion. As has briefly been set out in the previous chapter, Loramie's fort originally was a trading post at the headwaters of the Miami, occupied by the English as early as 1750 or 1751 as a trading station with the Indians and with such of the French trappers as came down from the north with their furs, and was known as Pickawillany. In 1752 the place was attacked by a French and Indian force from Canada, the station having been con-

sidered as an encroachment on French territory, and it was this attack that precipitated that long and bloody struggle of reprisals known as the French and Indian war, which was not terminated until 1763. Not long afterward Pierre Loramie, a French Canadian, established a trading post there, which was given his name and which became a hostile center against the American settlements then seeking a foothold in the Ohio country. In 1782 Gen. George Rogers Clark and a body of Kentucky troops invaded the Miami country and destroyed the post. In 1794 General Wayne erected a fort at that point, a unit in the chain of forts he established throughout this region in his campaign against the Indians and called it Ft. Loramie. After the Greenville treaty it was abandoned as a military post. Its importance as a point of portage to the nearby headwaters of the St. Marys and Auglaize rivers rendered Loramies a strategic point whose desirability was recognized by all the various forces then contending here for possession, and in 1812 it again became a center of considerable activity.

REVIEW OF THE DAYS OF ACTIVITY ON THE CANAL.

It was in January, 1817, that the first resolution relating to a canal connecting the Ohio river with Lake Erie was introduced into the Ohio Legislature. In 1819 the subject again was agitated. In 1820, on recommendation of Governor Brown, an act was passed providing for the appointment of three canal commissioners, who were to employ a competent engineer and assistants, for the purpose of surveying the route of the canal. The action of the commissioners, however, was made to depend on the acceptance by Congress of a proposition on behalf of the state for a donation and sale of public lands lying upon and near the route of the proposed canal. In consequence of this restriction nothing was accomplished for two years. In 1822 the subject was referred to a committee of the House of Representatives. This committee recommended the employment of an engineer, and submitted various estimates and observations to illustrate the

importance and feasibility of the work. Under this act James Geddes, of New York, an experienced engineer, was employed to make the necessary examinations and surveys. Finally, after all the routes had been surveyed and estimates made of the expense had been laid before the Legislature at several sessions, an act was passed in February, 1825, "to provide for the internal improvement of the state by navigable canals," and thereupon the state embarked in good earnest in the prosecution of the great work of internal improvement.

The construction of the canals gave new life to the progress of the state, the effect upon the settlement of the region now comprised within the confines of Auglaize county having been far reaching indeed, opening up, as it did, possibilities of development that those who first had come up here in the woods to work out homes for themselves in the then wilderness hardly could have dreamed of. As Henry Howe remarked, in his notable "Historical Collections," the work of building the canals "supplied funds to the settlers along their lines and then opened a market for the products of agriculture. These in many sections had previously next to no cash value and this, with the large amount of sickness incident to opening up a wilderness, had occasioned the settlements to languish." That was especially true of the settlements throughout this section, for the reclaiming of the swamps and the leveling of the forests enforced upon the early settlers here a task that no doubt entailed difficulties that in the present generation would be regarded as well nigh insuperable.

It is narrated that preliminary to the great public improvement in western Ohio a careful and continuous survey was made in 1824 by an engineer corps headed by Samuel Forrer and assisted by J. L. Williams, Francis Cleveland, Richard Howe and Thomas Mathews. One-half of the route was through an unbroken forest. From Ft. St. Marys to the Auglaize river not a house or a track of civilization existed, even the old military trails having become overgrown and reverted to the wilderness. In this connection Knapp's il-

luminating "History of the Maumee Valley" says that "on the southwest bank of this river (St. Marys) was found a squatter by the name of Thomas McClish, with a clearing of about one acre. While the engineer party were at this encampment the second officer in the corps, Thomas J. Mathews, father of the Hon. Stanley Mathews, of Cincinnati, was overtaken by a special messenger who had made his way through the wilderness with notice of his appointment as professor of mathematics in Transylvania University at Lexington, Ky.

* * * A few miles farther down the Auglaize the party encamped near an Indian village, Oquanoxa's town (now Charloe, in Paulding county), of the Ottawa tribe, at that time numerous in the lower section of the Maumee valley. It was a time of threatening war with the Miamis, then dominant and powerful on the sources of the Maumee river and upper Wabash. The Ottawa braves and warriors were at Ft. Wayne to take vengeance for the loss of an Ottawa Indian slain by a Miami. A money compensation, however, was agreed upon in lieu of blood, probably through the influence of the Indian agent at Ft. Wayne, the Hon. John Tipton, afterward United States senator from Indiana. From this point the party proceeded to Defiance." And such was the situation throughout this region in 1824 at the opening of what properly may be regarded as the beginning of the real pioneer period or period of settlement.

CONSTRUCTION OF GREAT RESERVOIR.

It was not until 1845, or more than twenty years following this initial survey, that the canal through this section was completed. In the meanwhile the strip of canal lands along the route of the proposed waterway were being disposed of by the state to settlers who were being attracted by the possibilities consequent to the completion of the canal and hundreds of men were engaged in the work of construction, and by the beginning of the '40s a period of great activity had opened along the line of the canal in what is now the western part of Auglaize county. For two years more than five hun-

dred men were engaged in excavating the channel of the canal from Loramies to St. Marys and hundreds of boarding shanties were erected at Minster, New Bremen, St. Marys and other convenient points along the line. At the same time 1,700 men were engaged in constructing the east and west embankments of the great St. Marys reservoir and boarding shanties in sufficient number were erected near the two extremities of the reservoir to accommodate this force. The men were employed at a remunerative wage and many thus accumulated sufficient money to purchase farms for themselves and become settlers.

An incident connected with the construction of the reservoir is set out in a reminiscient article prepared for local publication in 1891 by the late Andrew J. Linzee, who as a boy was a witness to the activities of that time and place. "The work on the western embankment had progressed as far southward as the 'big pit' which was dug in the last dry land on the north side of Beaver creek," says this article. "Up to this time Holtzbecker & Giddings were the contractors, Mr. Giddings giving his personal attention to the work while Mr. Holtzbecker was rarely ever seen on the job. At this time (1839) there were about 500 men—many of them having horses and carts—employed at this point, who lived in shanties built around the 'office,' said office being a very large building of round logs which answered for a general store, office and boarding and lodging house for contractors, bosses and clerks and stood on the west side of the big pit.

"Now to pay these 400 or 500 men for a month's work required quite a sum of money and at this particular time a previous month's pay roll had to be met. To procure the necessary amount Mr. Giddings had been East and returned with the currency, which consisted of the issue of the Binghampton bank, with which he made payment to his people in amount to about \$40,000. All was satisfactory for a day or two, when there came word that the said bank had suspended payment and that its notes were worthless. As may well be imagined the canal hands were indignant and threats were

indulged in, the charge being made that the money had been bought cheaply from a bank that was contemplating suspension. At any rate Mr. Giddings made up his mind that he would be just as safe somewhere else, so that at dawn the next morning he mounted his horse and took across-lot leave of his 'office' and reached the St. Marys road, on which he made his escape.

"I remember very well his riding up to the bars at our Old Town house that morning and hastening into the house, saying 'Good morning, Judge; I want a cup of coffee.' As we were seated at the table, he received a cordial invitation to join us, which he did, but he drank his coffee very hot and hastily partaking of a little food was up and away with very little ceremony, merely remarking that he had important business at Dayton. In about twenty minutes there was a great commotion on the highway and looking out we saw about fifty dump carts filled with anxious men whipping their cart horses into their best speed in hopes of overtaking the fugitive. But Gidding's blooded horse had already carried him beyond their reach and in about an hour they returned disappointed and indignant.

"Mr. Giddings proceeded to Dayton, where he sold his interest in the contract to Daniel Beckel, who, with Holtzbecker, finished the work. Whether he ever made it right with the people who lost on the Binghampton money or not, I do not know. But one thing is certain, Mr. Giddings was never seen again in that neighborhood."

DRAINING THE RESERVOIR.

Another sensational incident connected with the construction of the Grand Reservoir is set out in the older chronicles of this region, which have it that long before the location of the reservoir site some hardy adventurers bought and settled within the prairie now covered by the waters of the reservoir, among whom were Thomas and Joseph Coate, Mellinger, Large, Hugh Miller and others, all on the south side, while on the north side were Robert Linzee, the first

settler west of St. Marys, the Hollingsworths, the Nicholises, Gibsons, Hulls, Kompfs, Pratts and the Rev. Asa Stearns, "all good men—noble specimens of the frontier." The initial survey of the contemplated reservoir at the summit of the divide was made in 1830. Seven years later another survey was made, this latter compassing a circumference of 18,000 acres. In the same year the timber within the tract was let for deadening. A resolution passed in the Legislature provided that "no water should be let into the reservoir before the same should be cleared of timber and the parties paid for their land," and an appropriation of \$20,000 was made for such payment. Contemporary accounts charge that this fund "was squandered by the officers and bank speculators." When the banks were finished and the water let in it submerged all but one acre for Mr. Sunday, with thirty-four acres of wheat; fifteen acres for Mrs. Crockett, the whole of Thomas Coate's, sixty acres with several thousands of rails for Judge Holt, of Dayton, who owned a farm west of St. Marys; nineteen acres for Judge Robert Linzee, nearly forty acres for Abraham Pratt and the whole of Mellinger's except a small tract around the house, besides great damage to others on the south side, "too numerous to enumerate here."

On May 3, 1843, a meeting was held at Celina, Samuel Ruckman, one of the county commissioners presiding. It was resolved that Benjamin Linzee, afterward probate judge for Auglaize county, should go to Piqua to lay the grievances of the settlers before the board of public works. He was greeted with the answer: "Help yourselves if you can." This sneering answer served to fan the flames of revolt in the neighborhood of the reservoir and on the 12th another meeting sent Linzee back with the declaration that if the submerged lands were not paid for the bank would be cut and the water let out. This declaration was met with the response that the Piqua Guards would be sent out to rout any such movement. On the morning of the 15th more than one hundred determined men, with shovels, spades and wheelbarrows were on the spot, ready for work. The place selected for operations

was the strongest point on the bank, in the old channel of Beaver creek. A day and a half was consumed in the cutting, a slender breastwork left to hold the water back during the operations. When the tools were taken out Commissioner Ruckman said: "Who will start the water?" "I," said John S. "I," said Henry L., "and in a moment the meandering waters were hurling down fifty yards below the bank," concludes the old story.

Andrew J. Linzee's reminiscences carry the following somewhat more circumstantial account of this incident: "To get an intelligent understanding of the cause that led to this heroic action," says Mr. Linzee's review written in 1891, "it is necessary to know something of the appearance and condition of the Beaver Prairie before the water was laid up in it for canal purposes. The prairie was a vast marsh about the length of the reservoir, the water portion which was covered with a heavy growth of marsh grass and would average about a mile and a half in width. This was bordered on each side by a growth of black willows, averaging a quarter of a mile in width, then as the lands became higher a growth of saplings and underbrush, and finally heavy timber. The whole of what is now reservoir was covered with the accumulation of the growth of years of decayed grasses, leaves and fallen timber. Upon all this the water was first laid up.

"The Legislature had passed a joint resolution that no water should be laid up in any of the reservoirs then in contemplation (1838) until the timber and underbrush should be cleared off, but the contractors of the Miami extension canal were bringing the work to a finish at least a year before it was expected, and so anxious was the board of public works to put it into operation that they concluded to close up the waste weir of the reservoir and lay up the water without waiting for the clearing off of the timber, and so they did. This was in the fall of 1840 and the heavy rains of the fall and early winter caused the water to rise to three or four feet. Then came a severe winter, causing ice to form to a thickness of fifteen inches, which did not melt off until in

March. When it did melt off and the wind stirred the waters, mixed with all the decayed matter, this mixture proved to be of about the consistency, color and odor of a dyepot, and of course rendered the whole region for miles about obnoxious. It was reasonably feared that when the hot weather came this condition would cause sickness and so great was the apprehension that many were preparing to leave their homes and go out of the county—in fact, a stampede was imminent.

“Then it was that on the first day of May my father (Judge Robert Linzee) went to town (Celina) and requested a conference of the business men and county officials as to what was to be done with the nuisance. After an exchange of views all around my father asked, ‘Well, neighbors, what shall we do; shall we go, or shall the nuisance go?’ Some one replied, ‘Judge, you are not only the oldest man, but the oldest settler among us; we will leave it to you to say.’ ‘Well, then,’ he said, ‘if you leave it to me I appoint each of you a committee of one to notify all your friends and neighbors to meet us at the embankment on the morning of the 4th of this month with their picks, spades and barrows, and we will cut the embankment and let the water out.’

“On the morning of the 4th there met about seventy determined men with their tools and dinner baskets and at the point where the embankment crosses the channel of Beaver creek they began work and worked faithfully all that day. They met again the next morning with increased numbers and by sun an hour high that afternoon the sluice dam was removed and the flood began moving out. So enthused was Surveyor John S. Houston that when the water started he jumped into it and was carried through and out into the pits below.

“It took the water about four weeks to move out and then came a heavy June freshet and filled it up as high as it was before. By the time this had moved out the basin had received a good washing. In running out the water washed a gap in the embankment at least sixty feet in width and it cost the state about \$40,000 to fill it again. Of course

about twenty leaders were arrested and taken before a justice of the peace of St. Marys and bound over to the circuit court for trial. The next grand jury met in due time and although the attorney general was there with a clan of witnesses, no true bill was found. And that was the last that was ever heard of the prosecution in the affair."

REMINISCENCES OF THEODORE DICKMAN.

Among other published reminiscences of that period is that of the late Theodore Dickman, of Minster, who was ten years of age when the canal was completed and thus had a pretty distinct recollection of the activities of that time in the Minster neighborhood. including the work on the canal between Loramies and St. Marys. His story had it that the work on the canal was performed by sub-contractors, each of whom engaged to excavate a certain distance, ranging from a mile to five miles. It was the prevailing belief at that time that whisky neutralized the effects of malaria and as fever and ague were the common scourges of the time during the clearing period of the country, the sub-contractors were compelled to supply their hands with a certain amount of the stimulating beverage. The quantity varied from a "jigger" (two ounces) to sixteen "jiggers" a day and the contractor who offered the greatest number of "jiggers" a day was able to secure the greatest number of hands. The report was current at that time that the hands consumed forty-five barrels of whisky to forty-two barrels of flour. The hands employed on the canal in the vicinity of Minster were newly arrived Germans and many of them made money enough in the four years that the canal was under construction to purchase farms for themselves.

The necessity for the creation of the great reservoirs to serve as feeders for the canals in this section of the state—the Grand Reservoir west of St. Marys, the Loramie reservoir and the Lewistown (Indian lake) reservoir—will be understood when it is recalled, as has heretofore been set out,

that we here occupy the summit of the divide which separates the waters of the Ohio from the waters of the lake and that a way thus was required for the canal boats to go "over the hill" from Cincinnati to Toledo. The Ohio river at Cincinnati is 456 feet above sea level; Toledo, 573 feet. The towns of Minster and New Bremen, on the very summit of the divide, are 968 feet above sea level; St. Marys, 860 feet, and Kossuth, in this county, 851 feet. In order to negotiate the 512 feet of rise between Cincinnati and the summit in this county, fifty-three locks were required in the course of the canal, a distance of 100 miles. The summit occupies a distance of a fraction more than twenty-one miles and from its northern dip to Toledo is about 123 miles, this latter stretch requiring fifty-two locks to take up the fall of 395 feet, and to preserve a constant source of water for the canal these "feeder" reservoirs became necessary.

The St. Marys reservoir (Grand Reservoir) covers a tract of about 18,000 acres and cost \$528,222 in its construction; the Lewiston reservoir, which covers between 7,000 and 8,000 acres, cost \$600,000, and the Loramie reservoir, covering 1,900 acres, cost \$22,000. The total cost of the canal from Cincinnati to Toledo was right around \$6,000,000. Running through this county the canal was dug with a fifty-foot clearance at the top, twenty-six feet at the bottom and of a depth to carry five feet of water; locks, ninety feet in length, fifteen feet wide and of an average depth of about nine feet. Though, as has been noted above, there was much contention and no little disturbance among the settlers over the creation of these reservoirs, as time passed all began to realize the benefit of these considerable bodies of water in the neighborhood and the beautiful artificial lakes have for many years been recognized as valuable assets to this region, all three having much popularity as summer resorts, and through the season are thronged by persons on pleasure bent, each having become the scene of populous summer colonies, providing convenient places of outing for the people of this and adjacent counties. The Grand Reservoir is considered to be the largest artificial

body of water in the world and is a center of much interest to tourists.

INDUSTRIAL EFFECTS OF THE CANAL.

With the completion of the Miami & Erie canal in 1845 a period of material growth and development set in here-about that has continued without intermission. Indeed, it may be said that the rapid development of western and north-western Ohio dates from the commencement of navigation of the great waterway. By the time of the erection of Auglaize county in 1848 the canal was in full operation and a long line of packets were making regular trips between Cincinnati and Toledo and all the country between was profiting, this county materially so, for settlers were coming in from both directions and rapidly taking up the still unclaimed canal and Congress lands in the county. For nearly half a century the canal was a means of transportation and travel, a very comfortable and convenient means for those days. At every lock there was always a string of boats above and below, patiently waiting their turns to reach the other level. The blast of the boat horns and the "lo-o-ow bridge" calls echoed continually from the river to the lake. Hundreds of 60- and 80-ton freight boats plied up and down between all points, while regular passenger packets, accommodating from forty to sixty travelers, connected with all stage and steamboat lines; or, more accurately, the packets waited to make connection with the invariably late stages and steamboats. Not being affected by the bad roads, bad weather, or breakdowns of the stages, nor by the winds, high or low water drawbacks of the steamboats, the packets were seldom delayed. These packets, the "Pullmans" of the '50s, were the "limiteds" or "flyers" of that period and each was diner, sleeper, smoker, parlor car, baggage and mail coach combined. They were equipped in luxurious fashion and the trip from St. Marys down to Cincinnati could be made in a day and a night in the greatest comfort. Travelers were "neighborly"

in those days and much social enjoyment could be had en-route, concerts and entertainments of varied sorts pleasantly whiling the time away. And then the railroads came and the canal, as a means of transportation, took its place in history.

How small the canal boats must have been, how very small, to run on this small stream! How inexpensive (usually 50 cents a day without bed or board) and how entertaining such travel must have been! "The process of passing a boat through a lock or series of locks," says Dunbar, "was a never ceasing matter of interest to the passengers, and whenever this operation was performed, all but the most habitual canal travelers assembled on the roof to observe the work necessary for a transfer to a higher or lower level and to comment critically on the manner and time in which it was accomplished." These boats were gay, too, for their owners painted them green, yellow, brown, red, white or blue, and embellished them with panels and window frames done in harmonizing colors.

"No more delightful experience of travel could be obtained in all the country than that encountered by a canal boat passenger while moving through a region of wooded hills during the hours of a moonlit summer night," says a writer on this subject. "Ahead, he could see the plodding horses and their driver. The light from the open windows gleamed on the towpath and the rugged hillsides, and each new turn of the waterway brought into vision some new scene of shadowy loveliness."

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF PIONEER DAYS.

In his interesting collection of reminiscences of pioneers and brief review of the beginnings of things in Auglaize county printed in 1901, the late Prof. J. D. Simkins, of St. Marys, gives proper space to the recollections of Samuel Scott, who arrived at St. Marys with his father, Thomas Scott, in 1823, the family driving through in two wagons, one drawn by three yoke of oxen and the lighter one by a team of horses. Mr. Scott recalled the days of flatboating

on the St. Marys, there then having been a considerable industry in the village in the building of flatboats, which boats or pirogues he described as having been about 14x44 feet and sided up about five feet, the boats thus having considerable capacity for freight.

The St. Marys then was a considerable stream and at high water was full of traffic. On one occasion recalled by Mr. Scott he accompanied a fleet of fourteen boats going down the river to Ft. Wayne, the cargo consisting of dry goods, flour, pork, whisky and other goods. The crew "poled" one of the boats back from Ft. Wayne, the others not having been intended to return. Often the flatboatmen preferred to walk back. During times of low water there was some teaming between the two points, though it was long before the roads were properly cleared for profitable teaming.

Mr. Scott was living at Wapakoneta at the time of the departure of the Indians in 1832 and he was a witness to the last ceremonial dance of the Shawnees on the eve of their departure for the West. He said they wore breech-clouts, painted their faces and bodies in hideous fashion and then started out, yelling and brandishing their war clubs and other weapons. Nearly all the white people fled from the village while this was going on, but he nerved himself up and stayed "for the show." In describing the Shawnee council house at Wapakoneta he said it "was a splendid structure for the time," built of hewed logs. The Indians lived in log huts, generally but one family to the hut, and there were barely two dozen huts in the village, most of the tribesmen having built their huts in the woods round about and farming two or three acres of cleared land around their houses. But few of the Shawnees, he said, dressed as white men. There were many half breeds, he said, and he also was convinced there were numerous white persons in the tribe who were unaware of their origin, having been stolen by the redskins in childhood. He thus accounted for the presence of persons of light, red or curly hair in the tribe.

These Indian huts in the woods later became the first places of residences of many of the settlers who came in following the departure of the Indians and the sale of their former lands here. In Professor Williamson's review (1905) it is narrated of John Lenox, who bought a tract in Pusheta township at the public land sale at Wapakoneta in 1833, that "immediately after the purchase of his land he moved into an Indian cabin that was so small that it became necessary, when he had company, to move the chairs and table out of the building to make room for beds on the floor." It was amid such conditions that the pioneers "blazed the way" for succeeding generations, thus rendering possible the immeasurably easier conditions of living of the present generation. All honor to the pioneer!

THE LEVELING OF THE FORESTS.

Concerning the manner of disposing of the newly acquired Indian lands here, a recital of Mr. Lenox's experience in getting his land perhaps may be regarded as typical. It is narrated that "having accumulated \$100 (in the Sidney neighborhood) he attended the public land sale at Wapakoneta. Having made a memorandum of a number of desirable tracts of land, he bid on each in succession, as it was presented by VanHorn, the auctioneer, and was overbid in each instance, until the last tract on his list was reached. He bid \$100 for this tract and was again overbid. At that moment his father-in-law, Ebenezer Stevens, tapped him on the shoulder and told him to bid higher, that he would be responsible for the additional cost. After a few more bids Mr. Lennox was declared the purchaser."

Another of the early settlers in Pusheta township was William Craft, a Pennsylvanian, who settled there in 1833, one of whose sons was John Craft, whose recollections published in "The School Bulletin" at Wapakoneta in November, 1897, referred to the manner of his assistance in the task of clearing the land of the heavy timber with which it was

covered, the leveling of the forests having been the first burden of the pioneer. "Upon our arrival," said he, "a cabin consisting of one room was built. It was similar to all the houses built by the early settlers. The roof was made of clapboards held in place by weight poles laid on each course of boards. The floor was made of puncheons split from trees, the door of boards riven from oak timber and hung on wooden hinges. The fireplace was made of wood and was walled on the inside with boulders daubed with a plentiful quantity of mud. The chimney was built of sticks, split from hickory elm and was plastered inside and outside with a thick coat of mud. Instead of glass, the sash was covered with greased paper. * * * Wild game was plentiful at that time. I have seen as many as forty deer in a drove. Wild turkeys were so plentiful that they had to be driven from the corn fields to prevent them from destroying the crop. Besides the deer and turkeys, commonly called game, the forests abounded in animals of a savage nature, such as bears, wolves, wildcats and panthers. The fall that we moved to Pusheta township Mr. Coleman's sheep came to our house one day and lay against it that night, but they were all killed by wolves before the next morning."

The settlers of that period necessarily were largely "home-livers," subsisting on what they could raise from the land and on the game which was so abundant. Even the clothes which they wore were homespun, manufactured by the wives, mothers and daughters from the flax grown at their doors or from the wool from their sheep, and the clumsy implements of farming also were largely homemade, the pioneers turning the virgin sod with wooden moldboard plows and stirring the soil with wooden-teeth harrows. The ax, the drawing knife, the maul and the wedge were the all-important tools.

At the time of the beginning of general settlement here the old mill operated by the Quaker mission for the Indians at Wapakoneta was the only one within a radius of many miles, and this meant long trips to mill for most of the set-

tlers, this trip usually being made on horseback with a bag or two of grain slung on behind, or for such as had located down the Auglaize a trip by canoe, and then they often would have to stay a day or two at the Indian village "waiting their turn" at the mill. The Indians generally, however, were hospitably inclined and would regard it as an insult if their invitations to those thus held in the village to share their cabins and their board during the time of their enforced stay were declined in favor of a resting place beneath the trees on the river bank. After awhile steam mills came in, doing away with the uncertainty of the little water mills. The wealth of timber quickly attracted saw mills and the great wood-working industries began to develop. Presently the railroads came. The pioneer period had ended.

On and on the compact ranks,
With accessions ever waiting, with the places of the dead quickly fill'd,
Through the battle, through defeat, moving yet and never stopping,
Pioneers! O pioneers!

O to die advancing on!
Are there some of us to droop and die? Has the hour come?
Then upon the march we fittest die, soon and sure the gap is filled,
Pioneers! O pioneers! —Whitman.

CHAPTER IV.

COUNTY ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT.

Consideration of the subject of the organization and government of Auglaize county must be predicated on the fact that this county got a late start in its admission to the ranks of other similar civic units in the commonwealth of Ohio. For nearly thirty years prior to its erection as a separate civic entity the orderly processes of local government had been carried on here through the respective county governments in the counties of Mercer and Allen, both of which had been erected in 1820, two years after the treaty of St. Marys, which had opened the lands hereabout to settlement, excepting the Indian reservations which have been referred to in the previous chapter. Townships had been formed, villages had been established and were thriving, and local governmental functions were being carried on as in all orderly communities. But as those parts of the two above mentioned counties now included in this county began to be more and more populously settled there came about a pretty general demand for a more compact government throughout this section.

Both Allen and Mercer counties were unwieldly in the extent of territory they covered and from neighboring counties there arose demands for a new apportionment or delimitation of boundaries which would look to the greater convenience of the settlers. The roads were bad and the long and difficult haul to Lima and to Celina, the respective seats of justice for the counties of Allen and Mercer, even as they now are, was coming to be considered an unnecessary hardship on the part of many of the settlers living in what is now Auglaize county. Political differences also were arising which seemed impossible of adjustment along any other line

than that of separation, and rival community interests also were clamoring for recognition and attention. Wapakoneta had come to be a thriving village of 400 or 500 people and business and political interests had developed there which began to resent being held in subsidiary positions. A similar situation had developed at St. Marys, which less than ten years before had lost its court house to Celina, while at both New Bremen and Minster many also were beginning to think a new county would be desirable. Besides this, both St. Marys and Wapakoneta were entertaining serious county-seat ambitions. St. Marys, the former county seat of Mercer county (1824), rankled under the expressed belief that it had been robbed of its temple of justice when Celina became the county set in 1840 and continued to resent the necessity of reporting to the latter city for local government, at the same time cherishing hopes of being made the county seat again should a new county be erected. A good business was being built up there around the operation of the canal, which had been opened in 1845, and it very properly again desired to become the local civic center. There also were several pretty keen business men at Wapakoneta, as well as astute politicians, and both towns were literally "on their toes" in their determination to claim county seat honors when the growing talk of the creation of a new county should crystallize into action.

"THE FATHER OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY."

It remained for Dr. George W. Holbrook, a New Yorker who in the summer of 1834, two years after the departure of the Indians, had located at Wapakoneta, where he had become successfully engaged in the practice of medicine and also was running a drug store, to bring the project of the erection of a new county to fruition. In 1846 he had worked out a map of the new county pretty much along the lines that he regarded as most practical for the convenience of the settlers in interest and had begun to "talk it up" among other leaders in the community. Some regarded the project as un-

feasible and visionary, others gave it their warm support. So thoroughly convinced was Doctor Holbrook that his plan was good that he succeeded in getting a bill for the erection of a new county introduced in the Legislature in 1846. Despite his spirited personal lobbying in the bill's behalf, however, he could not then get it enacted into a law. The bill passed the House, but went on the rocks in the Senate. In the session of 1847 the doctor renewed his efforts, but still his bill failed of enactment. Nothing daunted, he got it introduced in the following session and the bill was passed. It received the sanction of both Houses of the Assembly on February 13, 1848, and the next day was signed by the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate, the law to become effective on the 1st of March following, and thus Auglaize county came to be erected.

It will be proper here to say a word or two concerning Doctor Holbrook, "the father of Auglaize county." George W. Holbrook was born at Palmyra, New York, September 12, 1808, and at the age of eighteen began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of a physician in his home town. He completed his medical studies in the University of New York, from which he was graduated, and in 1832, he then being twenty-four years of age, came to Ohio and located at Lockbourne, about six miles south of Columbus. Two years later, attracted by the rapid settlement of the country in this section of the state, and having heard good reports of the development of the old Indian town of Wapakoneta, the doctor closed out his practice at Lockbourne and moved to Wapakoneta, where he straightway took a position in the forefront of all local activities. He possessed certain agreeable eccentricities of manner which served quickly to introduce him throughout the settlements hereabout and it was not long until "the Yankee doctor" was one of the best known men in this whole countryside. Upon the erection of the county to which he had given his most earnest thought he was appointed associate judge of the court of common pleas for this district and thus added to his title of doctor that of judge.

When the county seat struggle between St. Marys and Wapakoneta was at its height Doctor Holbrook was in his element and was a host in himself in defense of the claims of the latter town, perhaps the strongest individual influence operating in the eventful selection of Wapakoneta as the county seat. Two years after settling here he had been elected clerk of Duchouquet township (then in Allen county) and in 1842 had been elected township treasurer. When railroad projects began to be pushed up into this part of the state he was one of the most active and indefatigable supporters of plans to get railroads here, and in many other ways did much to advance the interests of the growing community. The doctor retired from the practice of his profession in 1854 and thereafter devoted his attention to his other interests. From 1881 to 1885 he served this district as a representative in the lower House of the Legislature. He died on June 1, 1890.

THE ENABLING ACT ERECTING AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

Auglaize county was erected under the terms of a law entitled "An act to erect the county of Auglaize:

"Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That such parts of the counties of Allen and Mercer as are included within the boundaries hereinafter described be and the same are hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, which shall be known by the name of Auglaize, to-wit: Beginning at the northeast corner of Shelby county; thence west on the north line of Shelby county to the southwest corner of section 30 in township 6, south of range 5 east; thence south on the township line to the southeast corner of section 36 in township 7, south of range 4 east; thence west on the township line to the southeast corner of section 31 in said township; thence south on the section line to the Darke county line; thence westerly on said line to the southwest corner of section 7 in township 8, south of range 4 east; thence north on the township line to the northwest corner of section 19 in township 4, south of range 4 east; thence east on the section line to the northeast corner of section 34 in

township 4, south of range 5 east; thence south on the township line to the northeast corner of section 36 in said township; thence east on the section line to the northeast corner of section 36 in township 4, south of range 6 east; thence south to the southeast corner of said section; thence east on the township line to the northeast corner of section 1 in township 5, south of range 8 east; thence south on the Hardin county line to the north line of Logan county; thence west on the Logan county line to the northwest corner of said Logan county; thence south on the Logan county line to the point of beginning.

“Sec. 2. That townships No. 2, south of ranges 7 and 8 east; the south half of townships No. 2, south of ranges 4 and 6 east; and sections 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 in township No. 1, south of range 8 east, in Putnam county; the east half of township 3, south of range 4 east, in VanWert county; and the northeast quarter of township 4, south of range 4 east, in Mercer county, be and the same are hereby attached to and made a part of the county of Allen.

“Sec. 3. That fractional townships No. 15, ranges 1 and 2 east; and fractional townships 12 and 13 of ranges 3 and 4 east, in Darke county, be and the same are hereby attached to and made a part of the county of Mercer.

“Sec. 4. That the east half of township No. 1, south of range 4 east, in VanWert county, be and the same is hereby attached to and made a part of the county of Putnam; and that the northwest quarter of township 4, south of range 4 east, in Mercer county, be and the same is hereby attached to and made a part of the county of VanWert.

“Sec. 5. That all suits and prosecutions, civil or criminal, which shall be pending in those portions of Allen and Mercer counties, so set off and erected into the county of Auglaize, previous to the first day of March, 1848, and all like suits and prosecutions pending within those parts of Darke, VanWert, Mercer and Putman counties, hereby attached to the counties of Mercer, VanWert, Putnam and Allen, previous to the same time, shall be prosecuted to final

judgment and execution in the counties from which they are taken, in the same manner as if the said county of Auglaize had not been erected; and the sheriffs, coroners and constables of the said counties respectively shall serve all such processes as may be necessary to carry into effect such suits, prosecutions and judgments; and the collectors of taxes for the said counties, respectively, shall collect all taxes which shall be levied and unpaid, within the aforesaid portions of their respective counties, before and until the first Monday of March, 1848.

“Sec. 6. That all justices of the peace, constables and other township officers within the counties of Allen and Mercer, which by this act are erected into the county of Auglaize, and also within those parts of the counties of Darke, Putnam Mercer and VanWert, which by this act are attached to the counties of Mercer, VanWert, Putnam and Allen, shall continue to exercise and discharge the duties of their respective offices until their time of service shall expire and their successors are elected and qualified, in the same manner as if this act had not been passed.

“Sec. 7. That all writs and other legal processes in the territory hereby erected into the new county of Auglaize shall be styled as of Auglaize county after the first day of March, 1848, and all writs and other legal processes within the territory hereby attached to the counties of Mercer, Allen, Putnam and VanWert shall be styled as of the counties of Mercer, Allen, Putnam and VanWert, respectively.

“Sec. 8. That the said county of Auglaize shall be attached to and form part of the Sixteenth judicial circuit.

“Sec. 9. That the legal voters residing within the limits of the county of Auglaize shall, on the first Monday in April, 1848, assemble in their respective townships, at the usual places of holding elections, and proceed to elect the different county officers, in the manner prescribed to regulate elections, who shall hold their offices until the next annual election and until their successors are chosen and qualified; and at such election the electors of those parts of townships in the county

of Auglaize which have not the legal number of square miles for a township shall vote in the township immediately south of such parts, respectively.

“Sec. 10. That the county commissioners of each of the counties affected by the passage of this act shall have power, immediately upon the passage thereof, to attach such townships or parts of townships as shall, by reason of the passage of this act, fall below the legal number of square miles, to any adjacent township in their respective counties or to organize said parts of townships into separate townships and add any adjacent territory to the same that they may deem expedient.

“Sec. 11. That the seat of justice for said county of Auglaize shall be and hereby is permanently established at Wapaukonnetta (sic): Provided, the citizens thereof, or any number of them shall, within sixty days after the election of county officers for said county, to be held on the first Monday of April next, enter into bond to the commissioners of said county, with good and sufficient security to be approved by said commissioners, for the payment of five thousand dollars to said commissioners, in such payments as they shall require, to be applied to the erection of public buildings for said county, or the purchase of proper sites therefore, or for both purposes; and if the said five thousand dollars be not paid in accordance with the conditions of said bond, then this section shall be null and void: Provided, also, that the right of appeal on behalf of the obligors in the bond from the decision of the board of county commissioners upon the sufficiency of such bond shall exist to the court of common pleas as in other cases when appeals are allowed to said court from the action of the board of commissioners.

“Sec. 12. That the commissioners of the counties of Allen and Putnam shall meet on or before the first Monday of April next, or within sixty days thereafter, and ascertain and determine the amount of the public debt of Putnam county, exclusive of that for the surplus revenue loaned to said county, and the proportion which the value of the taxable lands set

off by this act to the county of Allen from the county of Putnam bears to the value of the taxable lands by this act remaining in Putnam county; and hereafter, each year, until the public debt aforesaid shall be paid and discharged, there shall be paid out to the treasury of Allen county, upon the order of the auditor thereof, to the treasury of Putnam county, a sum which shall bear the same proportion to the amount raised in that year by Putnam county for the payment of the debt aforesaid as the value of the taxable lands so set off as aforesaid bears to that of those so as aforesaid remaining in Putnam county; and the same shall be applied to the extinguishment of said debt and to no other purpose; and it shall be the duty of the commissioners of Allen county to levy a sufficient tax to raise said sum.

“Sec. 13. Should the provisions of the eleventh section of this act be not complied with, it shall be the duty of the county commissioners of Auglaize county to notify the electors of said county, by publication in some newspaper published in said county (and if there be no newspaper published in said county, then in some newspaper of general circulation in said county), to establish the county seat in the manner prescribed in the following sections.

“Sec. 14. The seat of justice within and for said county of Auglaize shall be fixed and permanently established at the town of Wapakonnetta, or at the town of St. Marys, as the qualified electors of said county prefer; and said electors are authorized to express that preference by indorsing on their tickets at the next annual October election after said noncompliance the words ‘seat of justice at Wapakonnetta,’ or ‘seat or justice at St. Marys,’ as their choice may be: it shall be the duty of the trustees or judges of the election in the several townships of said county to make return of votes in regard to the seat of justice within three days thereafter to the clerk of the court of common pleas of said county at the town of Wapakonnetta in said county, and on the fourth day after said election it shall be the duty of said clerk, in the presence of the associate justices or a majority of them, or, in the ab-

sence of the associate justices, then in the presence of two justices of the peace in said county, to canvass said votes in the same manner that by law is required to canvass votes for state and county officers; and the town receiving a majority of the votes given shall, thereafter, be the permanent seat of justice for said county of Auglaize.

“Sec. 15. It shall be the duty of said clerk to return to the court of common pleas of said county, next to be held after the said election, an abstract of said votes duly certified, that the same may be entered upon the journal of said court.

JOSEPH S. HAWKINS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES B. GODDARD,
Speaker of the Senate.
February 14, 1848.

By an act of the General Assembly, February 3, 1887, the county lines above set out were altered to make the line on the southeast border of the county, in Goshen township, conform to the line of the survey of the Military lands which juts into that township, this act providing “that the boundary line between Auglaize and Logan counties be changed so as to run parallel with section lines instead of angling across as it now does; that said line be located as follows, to-wit: commencing at the northeast corner of Shelby county, being the quarter corner to sections 25 and 36, town 6 south, range 7, east, and running thence east to the southeast corner of section 25, town 6 south, range 7, east; thence north along the range line three and one-half miles to the west corner of section 7, town 6 south, range 8, east; thence east along the quarter section line through sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and fractional 11, town 6 south, range 8, east, to the west line of Valentine Peers, Virginia military survey No. 12276, original quantity 2,666- $\frac{2}{3}$ acres; thence parallel to the south line of said survey No. 12276 to the Hardin county line; thence south along said Hardin county line to the southwest corner of said Hardin county,” etc., the act further authorizing and directing an election to

be held on the question of the boundary change by the electors of said counties at the following November election. At this election the vote in this county was almost unanimous in favor of the alteration of the boundary line, but 116 electors voting No to 3,710 voting Yes, and the maps were changed in accordance with the terms of the new law. Since then the boundaries of the county have remained fixed.

HOW THE COUNTY GOT DOWN TO BUSINESS.

In accordance with the provisions of the enabling act erecting Auglaize county, as set out above, primary meetings were held in March, 1848, for the nomination of county officers to serve until the next annual election in the following October and on the first Monday of April the electors within the boundaries of the new county elected the following officers: Associate Judges, Patrick G. Goode, David Simpson and George W. Holbrook; county commissioners, Shadrach Montgomery, Hugh T. Rinehart and John M. Drees; auditor, Marmaduke W. Smith; treasurer, John Rickley; clerk, Thomas Nichols; sheriff, John Elliott; recorder, Simeon Drescher; prosecuting attorney, Samuel R. Mott; coroner, A. S. Bennett, and surveyor, Dominicus Flaitz.

On April 8 the commissioners held their initial meeting, details of which are set out below; the other temporary officers began to assume the functions of their respective incumbencies, a number of the leading men of Wapakoneta filed their bond in the sum of \$5,000 to take care of the provisions of Section 11 of the enabling act establishing the county seat at Wapakoneta and the temporary government of the county was set up pending the election to be held in the following October, and it was not long until the campaign preceding that election was warmly under way, all the above officers excepting Prosecutor Mott, who announced himself as a candidate for the Legislature, becoming active candidates for re-election, George W. Andrews becoming the candidate to succeed Mott. All these were Democrats. The Whig candi-

dates in this regular election were as follows: Representative, Charles W. Levering; auditor, Robert C. Layton; treasurer, John C. Bothe; sheriff, Madison Copeland; commissioners, S. A. Majors, Fred Schrader and John Morris; recorder, John H. Nichols; prosecuting attorney, Joseph Plunkett, and coroner, J. M. G. Shaw. Surveyor Flaitz had no opposition.

It is narrated in the older chronicles that "the political canvass by the Democratic and Whig parties was exciting and bitter in the extreme." It is apparent that not only did the contest center on the personalities of the respective party men, but the county seat question was injected into the election with a degree of intensity that created neighborhood feeling and animosities that are re-echoed to this day, both St. Marys and Wapakoneta having determined partisans in the location struggle. In the two townships, St. Marys and Duchouquet, most in interest numerous meetings were held and the merits of the respective sites were vigorously discussed. As Professor Williamson's spirited review of this ancient campaign has it: "Notwithstanding the fact that the citizens of Wapakoneta had presented a bond for \$5,000, as provided in Section 11 of the act establishing the county, and had paid the first \$1,000, the citizens of St. Marys and the western townships were of opinion that the citizens of Wapakoneta would not be able to make the several payments on the bond, in which event the question of the location of the county seat would be left to a vote of the citizens of the county. Should that be the case, there was a strong probability that a majority would favor the location of it at St. Marys, as the more densely populated townships of the west were favorable to her interests, while Wapakoneta was largely dependent on the more sparsely populated townships of the east.

"In the warmly contested campaign, charges of corruption, trickery and selfishness were imputed to candidates that had no foundation in fact. Hugh T. Rinehart, of Union township, had more than his share of contumely to bear. It finally became so exasperating to him in September that he delivered an address at Wapakoneta in which he defined his

position on the question at issue. He was especially severe on the citizens of Wapakoneta, as he believed that most of the calumnies circulated against him had emanated from that locality. In his impassioned speech he is reported to have said, 'You may rake and scrape hell from one end to the other and you cannot find a meaner place nor a meaner set of men than are to be found at Wapakoneta.' The statement came near starting a riot, which was barely averted by the leading citizens of the place. Dr. George W. Holbrook, who was mainly instrumental in securing the erection of the county, also received his share of censure from the citizens of St. Marys for his favoring the establishment of the county seat at Wapakoneta. The excitement at St. Marys ran so high in September that he was threatened with personal violence if he should visit that village. But by the fall of 1849, however, the hostility of St. Marys had so far abated that the Doctor visited the village with a consignment of fifty fat hogs and was tendered a very cordial reception. A remark made by a former political opponent, that 'if they had two or three such men as the Doctor their town would amount to something,' it is needless to state was both pleasing and amusing to the Doctor."

MYSTERY OF THE MISSING BALLOTS

The election was held on October 10 and the returns were not received by the canvassing board until late in the afternoon of the following day. The board therefore decided to deposit the returns of the election in Doctor Holbrook's office and complete the canvass the next morning. It is related that they took charge of the key of the office, feeling quite confident that the returns would not be disturbed during the night, but when they assembled in the morning it was discovered that the returns from German township (including what now is Jackson township) had been taken from the file by some one and could not be found. It was not until some time in the following year that a duplicate of the missing re-

turns from that township was placed on file. An inspection of this duplicate, however, reveals that the vote from that township would not have altered the general result of the election, which was won by the Democrats by a uniformly considerable majority. More than 1,300 ballots were cast at this initial regular election. The ticket seems to have been "led" by Auditor Smith (Democrat), who received 977 votes as against 326 received by his Whig opponent, the other candidates running in about the same proportion.

In passing, it will be but proper to record, in this connection, that this ancient alignment of the parties in this county continued unbroken until in the election of 1920, when for the first time in the history of their party the Republicans of Auglaize county elected their entire county ticket. Upon the passing of the Whigs in the late '50s and the organization of the Republican party, there were some few local defections from the old line of Democrats, but not enough ever to change the general result and the Democrats maintained their customary majorities year after year until in 1920 when the notable defection came, apparently due to local party disaffection consequent to the World war, and for the first time the Republicans of this county scored a victory, electing their entire ticket with the single exception of Judge Layton, who had no opposition.

Perhaps the editorial expressions of the two party papers at the county seat concerning this election will serve as the best commentaries on this complete shift of the old time political alignment in this county. Said the *Republican*: "While elated over the victory, the Republicans begin to feel the responsibility thrust upon them and are already preparing to make good in the offices. * * * The Republican ladies deserve special mention for their part in the victory. They had a superb organization in all parts of the county and they worked with intelligence and tact, both in the campaign and at the polls election day. The major part of the credit for the victory is due them. * * * The clean sweep in the county came as a surprise to most voters, although it was

thought by Republican leaders to be within the range of possibilities. No one, however, expected such pluralities as the candidates received. They were most decisive and appeared to reflect the sentiment among voters that they had lost their patience and were desirous of a house cleaning. * * *

Quite a number of prominent Democrats in Auglaize county refuse to take the verdict as a rebuke to the Wilson-Cox combination, but profess to see in it a victory for 'pro-Germans and disloyalists.' They do not realize that such a charge reflects upon the former members of their own party. * * * The result was much deeper than the mere prejudice growing out of the war. It was a revolt against the Wilson administration."

The *Democrat* (daily *News*) found consolation in the statement that "it was of predestination that the Republicans should win—they knew that long ago," and expressed its philosophic resignation in the declaration that "there is no reason for holding the ballots in Auglaize county for thirty days—there'll be no request for a recount. * * * The reported rumor that Judge Layton is considering resigning in order to 'make it unanimous' need not cause any of the remaining Republican lawyers any uneasiness about being 'drafted' for that job." In this election the Republicans won by pluralities ranging from 1,047 to 1,746, this latter figure having been the plurality of Doctor Stuckey, candidate for coroner, who led the ticket. In the previous (1918) election the Democratic pluralities ranged up to around 900 or 1,000.

Concerning the traditional political alignment in this county, that thoughtful observer, Professor Williamson, in his review of conditions written in 1905, says that "the services of the county officers during the fifty-four years of our history have been eminently satisfactory to the public. The political leaders of the party in power have been men of integrity and character. A party under the direction of such men as William Sawyer, Edward Phelps, Hugh T. Rinehart, Marmaduke Smith, Joseph B. Craig, Charles Boesel, Samuel Mott, Jerome McFarland and George VanOss was, of

necessity, worthy of confidence. The Republican party, though in the minority, has been led by men of perhaps equal ability and integrity. Judge Michael Dumbroff, Joseph Plunkett, Philip Jackson, John Walkup, Henry Moser, Andrew Zanglein, George W. Holbrook, Shadrach Montgomery and John C. Bothe were all men of high standing and influence in the community."

EARLY PROCEEDINGS IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT

Commissioners' Journal No. 1 opens with the minute of the special session, April 8, 1848, and the following initial notation: "Special session of the commissioners of Auglaize county in the state of Ohio, held at the town of Wapakoneta on the 8th day of April, 1848, present Shadrach Montgomery and Hugh T. Rinehart, who presented certificates of election as such commissioners and also copies of oaths by them taken in conformity to law, in the words and figures following, to-wit," etc., these certificates being attested by G. W. Holbrook, associate judge of Auglaize county. Then followed a notation that "the auditor-elect not being present or qualified, G. W. Andrews, Esq., is appointed auditor protempore." It then was ordered "that an order be issued directed to the auditors of Allen and Mercer counties severally for the books, plats and all papers belonging to and to which the county of Auglaize is entitled, and that some person or persons be employed to go with said orders to the said auditors and procure the books, papers, plats etc., aforesaid and retain them until the auditor of Auglaize county shall have been qualified and then deliver the same to him. Adjourned until Monday, 10 o'clock, a. m."

This initial record was signed by the two commissioners above named as present, the board having proceeded on its first day's order of business without the third member, and then the minutes of the following Monday's session noted that "John M. Drees, commissioner-elect, presented his certificate of election as such commissioner, and also an oath by him taken

and subscribed in conformity to law," which is ordered to be filed, and then comes the notation that "the auditor not being yet present and detained by sickness, E. M. Phelps is appointed auditor protempore and the said Phelps forthwith took an oath of office." The bond of John J. Rickley, treasurer-elect, in the sum of \$30,000, was then approved, with sureties in the persons of S. R. Mott, R. B. Gordon, P. V. Herzing, Samuel Scott, Sabert Scott, Jacob Morfeliuss and Joseph Kelsey, and the commissioners then "proceeded to organize the townships and parts of townships within the limits of the county of Auglaize as follows, viz:

"1st. The south tier of sections taken from Shawnee township (Allen county) is added to the township of Duchouquet and made a part thereof.

"2d. The north tier of sections of Moulton township is added to the south half of Amanda township (taken from Allen county) and is hereby organized into a township to be called Logan. The remaining part of Moulton township to retain its original name.

"3d. The north tier of sections of Wayne township, formerly of Mercer county, is added to the south half of Salem township and is hereby organized into a township to be called Salem.

"4th. The balance of Wayne township to retain its organization and to be called Noble township."

It then was ordered that elections in the new townships of Logan and Salem be held on the third Monday of May, next, and the auditor was instructed to "cause public notice to be given of the same by public advertisement in three of the most public places in each of said townships at least ten days before the said day of election." Notation then was made of the contract entered into by the board with John H. Nichols for the use of Lot 57 and the west half of Lot 56 of the Original Plat of Wapakoneta for public offices at \$60 per annum. The board "also contracted with James Elliott for the use of the M. E. church for the purpose of holding courts for such length of time as they may need it, for such

sum as will seat it and erect a pulpit or stand, not to exceed the sum of \$50."

WAPAKONETANS FILE BOND.

On the following day (the 11th) Marmaduke W. Smith, auditor-elect, qualified for office and the board received the bond of "the citizens of Wapakoneta, or a number of them," in the sum of \$5,000, "conditioned for the payment of \$5,000 in five equal annual payments" to secure to Wapakoneta the county seat, in accordance with the terms of the enabling act of the Legislature creating the county, and the notation is made that the bond, "after having a proper deliberation, is not approved; 1st, because the payments are not such as the board required; 2d, because the conditions generally are not approved." Overnight, however, these objections evidently were removed, for the journal notes in the proceedings of the following day (the 12th) that "the citizens of the town of Wapakoneta present a bond in the sum of \$6,000, payable to the commissioners of Auglaize county, executed by G. W. Holbrook, R. J. Skinner, John Elliott, William Craft, Sr., James Elliott, John C. Bothe, Jeremiah Ayers, Michael Dumbroff, George Emerick and Anthony Roth, jointly and severally, with a condition for the payment of \$5,000, payable \$1,000 by 1st September, 1848; \$1,500 by 1st September, 1849; \$1,000 by 1st September, 1850; \$1,500 by 1st September, 1851, the last two payments to be paid in good material for the erection of county buildings at cash prices. And the said bond being offered for approval, the same is approved and ordered to be filed."

It then is noted that "the board contract conditionally with R. J. Skinner for Lots 51, 52, 53, Skinner's Second South Addition to Wapakoneta, with the express understanding that if the conditions of the \$5,000 bond this day executed by the citizens of Wapakoneta are not complied with the contract is at an end, but if the said bond is complied with, then the obligors of that bond shall receive a credit of \$200 upon the last payment of said bond. These lots are for the erec-

tion of public buildings, and it is determined that the county buildings shall be located upon said lots. And now comes M. Dumbroff and gives notice of appeal." And thus the county of Auglaize got down to business and began to pave the way for the establishment of a permanent seat of government.

During the following June and December sessions of the board the commissioners were chiefly concerned with road matters, viewers being appointed for various highways on petition of citizens of several communities praying for the establishment of highways. In June a levy of taxes for the current year was made, the levy being based on an estimate of the need of \$4,550 for county purposes; \$1,500 for school purposes and \$650 for bridge purposes, and the clerks of the several townships certified the taxes in their respective townships for township purposes, as follows: Noble township, \$70; St. Marys, 1 mill for township and 2 mills for poor purposes on the taxable property of that township; German township, half mill; Logan township, \$20 on the property of the township; Moulton township, 1 mill; Duchouquet township, 1 mill for township purposes and a specific tax of $11\frac{1}{2}$ cents on every acre of taxable land in the township; Pusheta township, \$40; Clay township, 1 mill; Wayne township, three-fourths mill, and the board "ordered a tax of \$1 to be levied on each practicing attorney and physician returned by the township assessor within the county of Auglaize for 1848."

On September 1, 1848, the first payment of \$1,000 of the \$5,000 pledged by the people of Wapakoneta for court house purposes was paid, and in December the board surrendered the contract with John H. Nichols for the rental of his rooms for office purposes and contracted with G. W. Holbrook for the use of the building on the southeast corner of Holbrook's block in Wapakoneta for the term of six months for the use of county offices and for the joint use of the drug store of Holbrook & Nichols for the clerk's office, for the rental of \$25 for the term of six months; and thus was made the second move in the direction of a court house. Evidently there was a lack of harmony, or at least of unanimity, in the actions



Auglaize County's First Court House.



View of Wapakoneta in 1887.

of the board, for the closing notation in the 'journal of the December term declares that "Shadrach Montgomery dissents to the proceedings had by the board under the statute passed March 5th, A. D. 1831, believing the same to be illegal and incorrect." The signature of the dissenter attached to this declaration evidently was written under much stress of mind, for the writer omitted the "d" from his signature. In this connection it is to be observed that Mr. Montgomery spelled his Christian name "Shadrick," though generally where it appears in the writing of the clerk of the board it is given the regular Biblical form of "Shadrach."

FIRST STEPS TOWARD COURT HOUSE.

During the March and June (1849) sessions of the board further attention was given to the matter of road viewing and bridge and drainage problems. In June the board renewed the Holbrook contract for rental of rooms for county purposes, for so long as would be needed, at the rate of \$40 a year. The levy of taxes for that year included, for county purposes, \$4,925; school, \$1,407; bridge, \$704. Work on public buildings had not yet begun. Even the use of a house for jail purposes was on a rental basis, it being noted in the journal of the December session (1849) that Henry Fisher was allowed \$3 "for jail rent after July term of court, 1849," and immediately thereafter it was noted that the board had concluded to adopt the plan of the court house at Troy, in Miami county, and of the jail in Sidney, Shelby county, "with certain alterations," as models for similar public buildings in Auglaize county. In furtherance of this design the auditor was authorized to advertise for bids for the erection of such buildings, the jail to be completed by March 1, 1851, and the court house by March 1, 1852, and the board contracted with G. W. Andrews for lot No. 283 in Wapakoneta for public building purposes for the sum of \$300 and took a deed for the same.

At a special session held on January 18, 1850, the board adopted the bid of G. W. Andrews & Co., of Wapakoneta, for

the erection of a court house and jail, but on the following day this firm withdrew its bid and the contract was awarded to Sabert Scott and James Elliott (the next lowest bidders) for the erection of a court house, under a bond of \$15,000, and to G. W. Holbrook, under a bond of \$8,000, for the erection of a jail, and bonds were issued for the payment of the same. And it was thus that Auglaize county got its first court house and jail. It is related that in the final settlement it was found that the cost to the county of its first court house was \$11,499, and of its first jail, \$2,350, settlement having been made with the contractors at the meeting of the board on January 13, 1851.

STORY OF THE OLD COURT HOUSE AND THE NEW.

The old court house, a graphic picture of which is preserved in this volume, stood in the quarter of the square at the southwest corner of Blackhoof and Mechanic streets, a location now (1922) occupied by three very handsome and modern residences, and the jail adjoined it on the south, the present location of the sheriff's residence and jail on Blackhoof street. In the week following the acceptance of the building in January, 1851, the county officials moved into the court house and in May of that same year the court, which had been holding its sessions in the Methodist church, occupied the new court room for the first time.

This May session was a short one, apparently much too short to satisfy George W. Andrews, Wapakoneta's first newspaper editor, who in the issue of his paper, the *Republican* (present *Democrat*), of May 7, 1851, animadverts on the court as follows: "The court of common pleas for this county commenced its spring session here on Monday of last week and continued throughout the week, holding night sessions nearly every night, and at the close of the week left a good share of business continued to the next term. No court is held throughout this circuit this week nor for five weeks to come, yet our president judge refused to finish the business of the docket! One of the associates, more conscious of his duty,

proposed to go on, but the usually gruff determination of the presiding judge fixed the adjournment, and the suitors in court who had not their business finished were forced into continuance and costs! The man who dares to take a course of this kind when we shall have adopted the new Constitution will be summarily dealt with. Taking the circuit through, it is about as easy a one as any in the state for the presiding judge; still the present incumbent has failed to satisfy the people of any one county. Two more terms will close his term of office." Mr. Andrews, the editor, also was one of the county's early lawyers and thus an officer of the court he was criticising in this fashion. But those were the days of exclamation points and plain speaking in newspapers.

This old court house served the county until along in the early '90's, a period of forty years, when it became apparent to all concerned that the county's business long had outgrown the quarters designed for it and a movement was set on foot looking to the erection of a new court house. In 1892 the grand jury returned to the court a recommendation that a more commodious building be erected for the housing of the public offices of the county and one designed more safely to preserve the public records and the court recommended the report to the county commissioners. This board, acting in conjunction with the prosecuting attorney, presently prepared a bill which in the next session of the Legislature was introduced in the Senate by M. D. Shaw, then state senator from this district, "to authorize and require the commissioners of Auglaize county to build a court house." This bill was passed and became a law on February 2, 1893. By its provisions the commissioners were required to "construct a court house at such point at the county seat of said county as, in their judgment, may be deemed most appropriate for the public good" and were authorized "to borrow (for the purpose) such sum or sums of money as they may deem necessary, not to exceed the sum of \$125,000, at a rate of interest not to exceed 5 per cent per annum, and issue bonds of said county to secure the payment of the principal and interest

thereon." This bill further provided that "plans and specifications for the same (court house) shall be determined upon and the contract, or contracts, therefore let within six months after the passage of this act, which contract or contracts shall require the said building to be completed as soon as possible." As a matter of passing interest, it will be observed that, contrary to the customary practice in the issuing of court house bonds, there was no provision in the law submitting the measure to the vote of the people of the county.

In pursuance of the provisions of this law the board of county commissioners, then consisting of Jacob Logan, William Barth and William Kelly, determined to abandon the old court house site and erect the new county building on the half block across the street south from the Wapakoneta city building, which had been erected in 1885, and to this end acquired possession for the county of the tract 316 1/2 feet north and south and 150 feet east and west, bounded by Mechanic, Willipie, Pearl and Perry streets, and the same was cleared and prepared for the erection of the new court house. This building site cost the county \$12,862.50. Though the enabling act provided for the erection of a court house at a cost "not to exceed the sum of \$125,000" it was found before the work had progressed very far that numerous "extras" would be required and when the building was completed early in December, 1894, the cost of the entire improvement, including real estate, fixtures, power house, etc., was found to be more than double the amount fixed by the statute.

The initial contract price for the building, let by contract to E. M. Campfield, the low bidder, was \$102,536.80. What with numerous supplementary contracts and incidentals not included in the original bid, this mounted before completion to \$184,526.46. Then, in addition to the cost of the building site, noted above, there were the architect fees amounting to \$10,620; furniture and fixtures, \$23,826.50; yard improvements \$9,658.22, and power house and fixtures (the court house carrying its own electric light plant), \$17,217.03,

the whole totaling \$259,481.21 and giving to Auglaize county one of the handsomest county buildings in this section of Ohio.

When the old court house was abandoned and afterward torn down, the jail, which meanwhile had undergone improvements and extensions consistent with changing conditions, was retained and still occupies the site it originally was given alongside the first temple of justice. In 1920 it and the sheriff's residence were completely overhauled and modernized and a county garage was added to the structure, this latter improvement extending through to Pearl street.

THE COUNTY INFIRMARY

Another county building is the county infirmary situated in sections 19 and 20 of Duchouquet township, about a mile and a half north of Wapakoneta. The tract of 200 acres of land surrounding the infirmary and which is mainly operated by the inmates of that institution, was purchased by the board of county commissioners in the fall of 1857, nine years after Auglaize county had become a separate civic entity, the board paying \$3,800 for the tract. On this tract at the time of purchase was a two-story double log house which had been erected by John Fisher and for the first year of the institution's establishment this building was used as a "poor house," the superintendent, William A. Smith, occupying with his family one half of the house and the other side being given over to such of the indigent population of the county as might thus find provision for their needs. In the following year (1858) a five-room frame house was built adjoining the old building for the use of the superintendent, at a cost of \$600. This plant served as an infirmary until 1867, when a substantial brick building was erected on the place at a cost of something more than \$10,000, and in 1891 an addition, or wing, was erected as a means of reducing the then overcrowded condition of the infirmary, this latter improvement having been made at a cost of about \$8,500.

In the early morning of September 25, 1907, the infirmary was completely destroyed by fire, together with most of its

contents and many of the sheds and outbuildings. Though there were thirty-eight inmates of the infirmary at the time of the fire, all asleep in the dormitories, Superintendent John Shaw succeeded in arousing all and conducting them to safety, these unfortunates thereafter being cared for in the infirmaries of neighboring counties until a new infirmary could be erected. The loss incident to this fire was estimated at about \$30,000, which was covered by insurance aggregating nearly \$20,000. Steps immediately were taken by the then board of county commissioners, composed of William J. Howell, C. S. Brewer and Richard Barrington, to reconstruct the infirmary, but it was their opinion that the same ought to be established in a somewhat more convenient spot and they suggested a site about a mile and a half west of the county seat on the road to St. Marys. This proposal met with so much opposition that a special election of the electors of the county was called to decide the matter, the vote to be on a change of location to the proposed new site, and December 27, 1907, was named as the day for the election. There were 7,410 ballots cast and the majority in favor of retaining the old location was 778.

The board then proceeded to get the work of reconstruction under way and in the following March the contract for the new infirmary was let to a Columbus (Ohio) firm, successful bidders out of a field of thirty-eight contractors bidding for the job, this bid being \$67,249. As in the case of the court house, it was found before the work had progressed very far that this initial contract price was not going to cover the expense of the plant, and it so proved, for when the building finally was turned over to the county it was found that what with supplementary contracts, architects' and engineers' fees, advertising and printing, a sewage disposal plant and other expenses, the total cost of the improvement aggregated \$100,344.08. The county infirmary building, a picture of which is presented in this work, is of fire-proof construction and gets its water and light from the Wapakoneta plant. The infirmary formerly was under the direction of a board of infirmary direc-

tors, elected by the electors of the county, but this board was abolished by act of the Legislature a few years ago and the governing power by that act was placed in the hands of the board of county commissioners. It is this latter board which now appoints a superintendent of the plant when a vacancy occurs, instead of the board of infirmary directors as formerly. The present superintendent is Fred Accuntius, incumbent since March 1, 1922.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY A BIG CONCERN AND "GOING STRONG."

From an abstract of the duplicate for Auglaize county for the year 1921 it is disclosed that the county is better than a \$54,000,000 concern and "going strong." The total acreage of land listed for taxation outside the cities and incorporated villages is 247,791 acres and the value of real estate outside the cities and incorporated villages is \$23,011,430. The value of real estate in the cities and incorporated villages is \$10,692,490. The value of personal property outside the cities and incorporated villages is \$10,851,470 and the value of personal property in cities and incorporated villages is \$9,982,670, a grand total of \$54,538,060, on which was levied a total of taxes and assessments for all purposes, including delinquencies and forfeitures, amounting to \$1,150,321.38.

In contrast to the above, the tax duplicate for the year 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected, discloses the following sums sought to be raised by taxation: Salem township, a total of 9,431 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$40,130, the total tax levy being 10 mills, or \$401.30; Noble township, 8,698 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$43,029, the tax levy being 11 $\frac{3}{5}$ mills, or \$499.13; St. Marys township, 11,833 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$120,641, the tax levy being 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ mills, or \$1,357.21. In the town of St. Marys, in this township, the appraised value of realty for taxation aggregated \$102,376, at a rate of 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ mills, or \$1,151.73. In German township (then including what now is Jackson township) there was a total of 19,356 acres assessed for taxation, of an assessed valuation of \$138,627, at a rate

of $10\frac{1}{2}$ mills, or \$1,455.58. Realty values for taxation in the town of Bremen, in this township, aggregated \$19,829, at a rate of $10\frac{1}{2}$ mills, or \$208.20, while in the town of Minster, in what then was in German township (now Jackson), realty values for taxation aggregated \$28,127, at a rate of $10\frac{1}{2}$ mills, or \$295.33. In Logan township 7,493 acres were assessed for taxation at an assessed valuation of \$26,382, at a rate of $10\frac{3}{4}$, or \$283.60; Moulton township, 10,959 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$46,530, at a rate of 11 mills, or \$511.83; Washington township, 14,244 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$60,263, the tax levy being 10 mills, or \$602.63; Duchouquet township, 26,963 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$122,338, taxed at 11 mills, or \$1,345.71. In the town of Wapakoneta, in this township, the assessed valuation of lots was \$31,144, on which was levied a tax of 11 mills, or \$342.58. In Pusheta township 18,990 acres were assessed for taxation at a valuation of \$94,753, the tax levy being $10\frac{2}{5}$ mills, or \$985.43; Union township, 22,626 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$96,188, the levy being 10 mills, or \$961.88; Clay township, 17,291 acres, assessed at \$58,072, the levy being 11 mills, or \$638.12; Wayne township, 15,280 acres, of an assessed valuation of \$46,439, the total tax levy being $10\frac{3}{4}$ mills, or \$499.21, and in Goshen township 8,405 acres were assessed for taxation, the valuation aggregating \$19,342, the tax levy being 10 mills, or \$193.42.

A detailed tabulated statement from the auditor's office of receipts and expenditures in the county's behalf for the year ending September 1, 1921 (current statement), is as follows:

<i>Funds</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Disbursements</i>
County	\$ 121,642.27	\$ 96,769.25
Judicial	2,019.78	1,128.68
Infirmary	12,928.68	14,958.66
Bridge	63,887.12	76,976.42
Building	8,576.54	9,666.47
Soldiers Relief	571.85	1,920.00
Dog and Kennel	2,988.25	3,478.29

<i>Funds</i>	<i>Receipts</i>	<i>Disbursements</i>
County Ditch	3,264.52	2,937.03
Pike Repair	96,631.23	117,044.65
Undivided General Tax	1,100,930.43	1,100,930.43
Undivided Cig. Tax	2,989.64	3,066.86
Inheritance Tax	3,507.24	3,910.55
Suspense Tax	11.28	27.93
Sinking	47,021.36	46,575.00
Election	3,489.16	5,037.61
Agricultural Society	2,059.01	2,763.07
General Road Improvement		2,674.41
Mothers Pension	10,733.55	6,116.00
Tuberculosis Hospital	4,605.71	4,758.08
County Board of Education	14,355.20	13,744.81
Road Sinking	74,981.59	83,419.64
State Aid Road	10,240.88	
Road Construction	27,092.30	5,588.16
Blind Relief	2,546.68	2,673.83
Recorder's Salary	1,530.00	4,383.00
Clerk of Courts' Salary	1,660.00	1,970.92
Sheriff's Salary	1,530.00	3,067.36
Probate Judge's Salary	2,640.00	4,042.12
Treasurer's Salary	2,540.00	7,023.98
Auditor's Salary	2,760.00	6,169.30
Surveyor's Salary	9,500.00	4,930.50
County Agricultural Agent	1,517.16	1,500.00
County Health District	7,500.00	6,162.43
Automobile License	15,980.96	15,980.96
General Road	132,634.47	140,681.28
General Ditch	78,010.45	74,487.71
Show Pavillion	2,709.23	2,709.23
Depository Interest	7,906.15	7,890.65
Trust Funds (School Boards, etc.)	776,222.89	776,190.83
Total	\$2,661,715.58	\$2,663,356.10

A ROSTER OF COUNTY OFFICIALS SINCE THE BEGINNING.

The names of the county officials elected at the first regular election in Auglaize county have been given. At the time of that first election the courts of general jurisdiction in this state were presided over by three judges, a president judge and two associate judges, and the first court to sit as a court of common pleas in this county was made up of Patrick G. Goode, Dr. George W. Holbrook and David Simpson. In the following year (1858) by legislative act the court of common pleas was made a one-man court and Benjamin F. ("Ben") Metcalf was elected to the bench. Since the creation of this judicial district, Auglaize county has furnished three of the judges of the court of common pleas in the district, E. M. Phelps, William T. Mooney and Fernando C. Layton, the latter of whom was sitting at the time of the passage of the act of 1913 creating a court of common pleas in each county. Judge Layton was elected to the bench in the following election and by successive re-elections is still serving. Judge Layton also has served this congressional district in the national House of Representatives, other Auglaize men who have thus served in Congress being Robert B. Gordon and J. Henry Goeke, the two latter having served two terms each and Judge Layton three terms. Those who have served this district as state senators are E. M. Phelps, Charles Boesel, George W. Andrews, J. P. Schneider, M. D. Shaw, W. G. Brorein, D. F. Mooney, George W. Holl and Claron L. Shafer, the latter elected in 1920.

State Representatives—Samuel R. Mott, Henry Sipps, William Blackburn, J. J. Rickey, John Walkup, William Sawyer, George W. Andrews, Charles Boesel, Robert B. Gordon, Samuel R. Mott, Jr., Henry Mesloh, L. C. Sawyer, George W. Holbrook, M. D. Shaw, Jacob Boesel, W. G. Brorein, Joseph E. Schneider, B. A. Fledderjohan, L. G. Neely, J. J. Connaughton, George W. Holl, T. J. Cartmell and Joseph C. Copeland (incumbent), elected in 1918 and re-elected in 1920.

Probate Judges—The first judge of probate in Auglaize county was Michael Dumbroff, who was succeeded in turn by William L. Ross, A. H. Trimble, J. S. Williams, Levi Hamaker, John McLean, Benjamin Linzee, J. J. Walter, Clement A. Stueve, Christian Langhorst, Jacob Koenig, Jacob T. Koenig, J. C. Kridler, Otto J. Boesel (by Appointment), H. S. Vaubel and Richard E. Boesel (incumbent), elected in 1920.

Auditors—Marmeduke W. Smith, as has been noted, was the first auditor of the county and he in turn was succeeded by A. H. Trimble and J. B. Craig, after which he (Smith) was elected again and served during the Civil war period, being then succeeded by James Wilson, Sr., James F. Smith, Jerome L. McFarland, W. F. Torrance, Robert B. Gordon, G. A. Orphal, W. H. Meyer, A. E. Schaffer, F. W. Langhorst and Charles E. Fisher (incumbent), elected in 1916 for the four-year term and continuing to serve under the law providing for the extension of the terms of county auditors, the only present (1922) Democratic official in the court house, the county having gone Republican for the first time in its history in the memorable election of 1920.

Treasurers—The first treasurer of the county, John J. Rickley, was succeeded by B. A. Wendlen and he in turn by Daniel Bitler, after which Wendlen was given another term, to be succeeded by Michael Miller, who was succeeded by Wendlen, elected for the third time and serving during the close of the Civil war period, after which the office was held by Arthur Bitler and Mathias Mouch until the election in 1872 of Lewis Myers, whose embezzlement of the funds of the county furnished perhaps the greatest civic sensation this county has ever had—an interesting story which is told elsewhere in this work. Myers was succeeded by Theodore Dickman, William Heinrich and Middleton Lucas, the latter of whom was succeeded in office by his kinsman, Israel Lucas, whose trip to Canada with the funds of the county furnishes another good story, told elsewhere. C. C. Pepple was appointed to succeed Israel Lucas and was elected to the office in the succeeding election, being then followed by S. W. McFar-

land, A. O. Pepple, D. A. Clark, J. H. Grothaus, George Van-Oss, H. W. Brinkmeyer, E. J. Emerick, Thomas E. Marshall and George H. Katterheinrich, the latter of whom, elected in 1920, died in February, 1921, after having served as treasurer since the preceding September. The county commissioners appointed as Mr. Katterheinrich's successor (to fill the unexpired term) Andrew H. Lampert, who had been elected county recorder in 1920 and who resigned the latter office to accept the appointment to the office of treasurer, of which he is now (1922) the incumbent.

Clerks of the Court—As has been set out above, Thomas E. Nichols was the first county clerk. Since his term of office the position has been filled by the following: William Crane, Samuel R. Mott, Sr., John S. Williams, F. T. Bates, Anthony D. Dieker, Edward Meyers, C. P. Davis, T. B. Baker, J. A. Nichols, Anthony Culliton, John Keller, T. B. Baker, Emil Koop, W. P. Sillin, Charles Herrman, Edward Lusk, John J. Kenney and Bert Blume (incumbent), elected in 1920.

Sheriffs—John Elliott, the United States blacksmith, who had been sent to the Indian village at Wapakoneta in the service of the Indian agent and who continued to make his home in this county, settling at St. Marys after the Indians were sent West, was the first sheriff of the new county of Auglaize, elected in 1848, and he was succeeded by Michael Miller, John Mertz, William Wise, Mathias Mouch, who served during the Civil period; William Wehrman, Frederick Kohler, Theodore Dickman, T. B. Baker, Frederick Kohler (second term), William Schulenberg, John Distelrath, Nicholas Shubert, Charles W. Nichols, Charles Hauss, W. L. Melching, August Smith, William Lear, James Shockey, whose term expired in 1917 and who served as chairman of the draft board for Auglaize county during the time of America's participation in the World war; Ora Hinton, elected in 1916 and re-elected in 1918, and Robert ("Bob") Ewing (incumbent), one of Auglaize county's several "big league" baseball heroes, elected in 1920.

Recorders—Simeon Dresher, the first recorder of the county, was succeeded by C. G. Galezio, J. S. Williams, Edward Meyers, James H. Skinner, Samuel R. Mott, Jr., Robert McMurray, Henry Ruck, Henry C. Settlage, J. J. Connaughton, Charles Frech, R. B. Anderson, S. H. Beale, James Kilian, Leo Kellermeyer, Charles H. Koehl and Andrew H. Lampert, the last named of whom, as noted above, was elected in 1920 but resigned his office in June, 1921, to accept the appointment to the unexpired term in the treasurer's office, and the commissioners appointed Roy Hawkey (incumbent) to fill the unexpired term in the recorder's office.

Surveyors—Dominicus Flaitz, the first surveyor of Auglaize county, was in turn succeeded by J. B. Craig, John Cutler, Eli Dennison, William Limbacker, Samuel Craig, Limbacker again, Craig for another term, John B. Walsh, Craig for a third term, F. A. Runkle, J. H. Meyer, F. C. Keuthan, J. E. House, for two terms, and then George Shuster (incumbent) elected in 1920.

Coroners—It has been the invariable practice in this county to elect to this office a practicing physician. As noted above, Dr. A. S. Bennett was the first coroner elected in the county, in 1848, and he was succeeded by T. W. Underwood, W. S. Baily, M. A. Ferguson, Henry Mesloh, M. Lucas, O. W. Jacobs, John A. Werst, J. T. Moore, F. C. Hunter, N. T. Noble, Doctor Hunter again, S. H. Sibert, E. F. Heffner, Doctor Hunter for a third term, Carl L. Mueller, S. H. Sibert, elected in 1914, who served by re-election until succeeded by the present incumbent, Dr. W. S. Stuckey, elected in 1920.

Prosecuting Attorneys—As noted in the review of the election called to fill the county offices in 1848 during the interim pending the next regular election, Samuel R. Mott was the first prosecuting attorney elected in this county. He did not stand for the regular election, however, instead running for the Legislature, and the first regularly elected prosecutor was George W. Andrews, who long was recognized as one of the most forceful figures in the constructive days of this

county. He was succeeded by Christian Barr and he in turn by John Walkup, Joseph Craig, Samuel R. Mott, Sr., C. W. Cowan, Joseph Plunkett, R. D. Marshall, W. V. M. Layton, Marshall again, Fernando C. Layton (present judge of the court of common pleas), F. C. VanAnda, C. A. Layton, S. A. Hoskins, C. L. Smith, Theodore H. Tangeman, John Musser, Lewis Stout and Karl Timmermeister (incumbent), elected in 1920.

County Commissioners—Beginning with the first board of county commissioners mentioned above, this board having been composed of Shadrach Montgomery, Hugh T. Rinehart and John M. Drees, there has been a long line of commissioners, some serving by successive re-elections for considerable periods, this list including the names of John Morris, Elisha Noble, Samuel Focht, Nicholas Brewer, Christian Ellerman, William Bush, William Finke, William Nelson, John H. Gossard, L. Sammetinger, John B. Krusie, J. L. McFarland, L. H. Heusch, Christian Heisler, Joel Loomis, William Craft, J. H. Dunathan, Daniel Focht, John A. Werst, George VanOss, John Reichelderfer, Henry Koop, William Kelly, William Barth, J. W. Logan, J. S. Butcher, Henry Hellbusch, Samuel Plummer, Frederick Kellermeyer, Richard Barrington, W. J. Howell, C. S. Brewer, F. E. Bailey, Henry Ruemping, C. H. Dixon, William Frey, L. D. Koch, D. W. Whetstone, Adam Holl, D. H. Kirwan, Herman Brandewien, Guy Campbell, and the present incumbent board, Messrs John W. Brackney, Elmer H. Youngs and William Graessle.

In the November election, 1922, the Republicans of Auglaize county repeated their victory of 1920 by electing their entire county ticket, with the exception of clerk of courts. In this (the Fourth) congressional district Congressman John L. Cable (Rep.) of Lima, was re-elected over ex-Congressman J. H. Goeke, formerly of this county, now a resident of Lima, by a majority of 7,339, the majority against Goeke in this his old home county being 971. On the other hand, the

majority in favor of Senator Atlee Pomerene (Dem.) for re-election to the United States Senate, in this county, was 116 and for A. V. Donahey (Dem.) for Governor, 745. The Democrats of this county also returned majorities in favor of the Democratic nominees for lieutenant governor (868), secretary of state (123) and attorney general (21), while the Republicans returned a majority of 93 in favor of the Republican nominee for state treasurer. The voters of this county returned a majority of 605 against the so-called "beer and wine amendment" and even more decisive majorities against the two state tax amendments. The only unsuccessful Republican candidate in this county was Bert T. Blume, clerk of courts, nominee for re-election, who was defeated by John J. Kenney (Dem.), former clerk, by a majority of 223. The Republican majorities in the contest for county offices ran to as high as 1,297 for Andrew H. Lampert, county treasurer, nominee for re-election. The successful candidates were elected by the following majorities: State representative, L. C. Brodbeck, 390; clerk of courts, John J. Kenney, 223; sheriff, Bob Ewing, 202; auditor, Ferd F. Becker, 418; commissioner, John W. Brackney, 599; treasurer, Andrew H. Lampert 1,297 for the short term and 772 for the long term; recorder, Roy Hawkey, 319; surveyor, George A. Shuster, 1,068; prosecuting attorney, Karl Timmermeister, 568, and coroner, Dr. W. S. Stuckey (unopposed), 5,156. In its comment on the obvious peculiarities of this election, the *Republican* said that "the real significance, in our opinion, is that the people are more independent than ever before. They are not bound by parties and are ready to vote any ticket so long as they see a chance to right real and imaginary wrongs."

TOWNSHIP AND CORPORATION OFFICIAL DIRECTORY—1922.

Township Trustees—Salem township, A. H. Barber, L. A. Reed, Emanuel Wiswasser; Noble, W. P. Shipman, R. E. Spicer, Charles Hollman; St. Marys, John H. Newmier, Theo. E. Reed, Henry B. Smith; German, Christ Dickman, Frank

Wierth, William Wellman; Jackson, Joseph Stueve, Fred Steinman, John Woehmeyer; Logan, N. Brincefield, Wesley Fisher, Charles Croft; Moulton, Frank Springer, Fred Becker, Michael Sharkey; Washington, S. M. Hittepole, Theo. H. H. Kuck, George Haberkamp; Duchouquet, William Kreitzer, John H. Miller, William Drexler; Pusheta, Gus Gerstner, Frank Monger, William Trentman; Union, C. E. Green, R. F. Horn, Guy Taylor; Clay, J. W. Finley, J. D. Fritz, Mike Gross; Goshen, Ira Campbell, Ross Downing, T. E. Hull.

Clerks—Salem township, E. R. Hoverman; Noble, George Stroebel; St. Marys, Forest Levering; German, Frank Laut; Jackson, Julius Dillman; Logan, W. N. Dingledine; Moulton, Edgar R. Mertz; Washington, W. P. Katterheinrich; Duchouquet, William T. Doorley; Pusheta, Albert J. Strominger; Union, Earl W. Taylor; Clay, H. C. Dobie; Wayne, Eldon R. Buffenbarger; Goshen, O. F. Lusk.

Treasurers—Salem township, W. S. Reed; Noble, G. W. Brodbeck; St. Marys, Carl Ike; German, Elmer Roettger; Jackson, Lawrence Naber; Logan, J. P. Brenneman; Moulton, F. O. Mertz; Washington, Herman Kuhlman; Duchouquet, Earl C. Bechdolt; Pusheta, Otto Duckro; Union, J. W. Logan; Clay, Forest Swartz; Wayne, J. A. Bowdle; Goshen, Glacus Bidwell.

Presidents of School Boards—Salem township, C. F. Gayer; Noble, David Rhorbach; St. Marys, Lafe Moeller; German (special), Herman Fark; Jackson, Joseph J. Prenger; Jackson (special), John Thuman; Logan, D. F. Zimmerman; Moulton, A. P. Dawson; Washington, John Frische; Duchouquet, O. W. Lotridge; Pusheta, D. J. Braun; Clay, L. J. Thrush; Wayne, F. E. Moyer; Goshen, Oscar Pence.

Clerks of School Boards—Salem township, A. T. Haller; Noble, George Stroebel; St. Marys, Forest Levering; German (special), Oscar Moeller; Jackson, Anton Heitbrink; Jackson (special), J. H. Heitkamp; Logan, Joe Frank; Moulton, Edgar R. Mertz; Washington, N. P. Katterheinrich; Duchou-

quet, Harley Spees; Pusheta, Theo. G. Ruck; Clay, Frank M. Mertz; Wayne, Eldon Buffenbarger; Goshen, J. R. Cordrey.

Assessors—Salem township, Eli Bowersock; Noble, William Hertenstein; St. Marys, Irvin Dowty; German, William Dicke; Jackson, Clem Winners; Logan, Hugh Zerkel; Moulton, Henry Glynn; Washington, George Bierbaum; Duchouquet, Cletus Shaw; Pusheta, Christ Nuss; Union, F. B. Hardin; Clay, John Beer; Wayne, Dave Horn; Goshen, William L. Smith.

CORPORATIONS.

Clerks—St. Marys, C. W. Niles; New Bremen, J. M. Brucken; Minster, Harry J. Drees; Buckland, W. N. Dingle-dine; New Knoxville, G. H. Kattman; Cridersville, I. J. Fisher; Wapakoneta, Fred W. Nester; Uniopolis, C. E. Taylor; Waynesfield, M. L. May.

Treasurers—St. Marys, Mrs. Winfried Bubp; New Bremen, Adolph Boesel; Minster, Louis Heckman; Buckland, George Schultz; New Knoxville, Herman Holl; Cridersville, E. F. Reichelderfer; Wapakoneta, Dittmor Spees; Uniopolis, Earl W. Taylor; Waynesfield, W. E. Bush.

Presidents of Boards of Education—St. Marys, M. K. Clover; New Bremen, A. C. Settlage; Minster, Ed Steine-mann; Buckland, J. H. Harshbarger; New Knoxville, Herman Kuhlman; Cridersville, Roy Moyer; Wapakoneta, Ed Trau; Uniopolis, C. E. Green; Waynesfield, Kathryn Horn.

School Clerks—St. Marys, W. V. Young; New Bremen, Dr. F. F. Fledderjohann; Minster, C. H. Dickmann; Buckland, S. V. Scott; New Knoxville, Edward C. Holl; Cridersville, Robert DeLong; Wapakoneta, C. C. Nardin; Uniopolis, E. S. Kauffman; Waynesfield, S. H. McPherson.

Assessors—St. Marys, Clarence Havlin, L. J. Sullivan, W. C. Hudson and Emanuel Krouss; Wapakoneta, Robert C. Howell, Henry Ambos, David Brown and Jacob Zint; New Bremen, Theo. Purpus; Minster, John Piening; Buckland, Samuel Walker; New Knoxville, Herman Eversman; Criders-

ville, R. E. Spees; Uniopolis, J. W. Logan; Waynesfield, J. W. Sproul.

POPULATION STATISTICS.

In common with many of the counties in Ohio whose interests are chiefly agricultural the population of Auglaize county registered a decrease during the past decennial period, the census of 1920 showing a falling off of 1,719 since 1910, or 5.5 per cent, as against an increase of 20.8 per cent for the state as a whole. The population of the county in 1920 was 29,527, or 74.4 per square mile. In 1850, the first census period after the erection of Auglaize county, the county had a population of 11,338; in 1860, 17,187; 1870, 20,041; 1880, 25,444, 1890, 28,100; 1900, 31,192, and in 1910, 31,246. The last census gave Wapakoneta, the county seat, a population of 5,295; St. Marys, 5,679; New Bremen, 1,502; Minster, 1,538; Cridersville, 493; New Knoxville, 537; Waynesfield, 584; St. Johns, 355; Buckland, 258; Uniopolis, 193. The population of the several townships of the county during the past three decennial periods was as follows, these figures including as well the population of the towns and villages in the respective townships:

Townships.	1920	1910	1900
Clay	1,124	1,439	1,647
Douchouquet	7,137	7,310	6,132
German	2,315	2,384	2,211
Goshen	695	838	908
Jackson	2,229	2,261	2,196
Logan	1,043	1,191	1,473
Moulton	975	1,114	1,286
Noble	1,046	1,216	1,360
Pusheta	1,503	1,116	1,275
St. Marys	6,784	6,917	6,729
Salem	850	953	1,112
Union	1,317	1,513	1,686
Washington	1,550	1,471	1,629
Wayne	1,409	1,523	1,568

Auglaize county is included in the Fourth Ohio congressional district, this district being comprised of the counties of Darke, Miami, Mercer, Shelby, Auglaize and Allen. The county is included in the Thirty-second state senatorial district, this district being comprised of the counties of Mercer, Auglaize, Allen, VanWert, Paulding, Defiance and Williams.

CHAPTER V.

THE BENCH AND THE BAR—COURTS AND LAWYERS.

As has been set out, civil processes had for thirty years been operative throughout the region now comprised within Auglaize county before this county became organized as a separate civic entity in 1848. Since 1844 this region had been included in the old Sixteenth judicial district, this district including Shelby county and all the counties thence north to the state line, ten in number, and by the terms of the judicial apportionment act creating the district, Judge Patrick G. Goode, the man who named the city of Lima, was named the president judge of the district for a term of seven years and was thus serving in that capacity when Auglaize county was erected. Judge Goode was a Virginian by birth, but became a resident of Ohio in 1805, two years after the admission of the state, he then having been but seven years of age. He received advanced schooling in Philadelphia and early took up the study of law. In 1833 he was elected to represent his district in the Legislature and in 1836 was elected to Congress, his district at that time extending from Dayton to Toledo. His term of office as president judge of this judicial district expired in 1851 and he thereafter devoted himself to the service of the Methodist church, making his home at Sidney, where he died in the fall of 1862.

When Auglaize county was erected, George W. Holbrook (the "father of Auglaize county," of whom fitting mention heretofore has been made), David Simpson and John W. McLean were named as associate judges for this county, and, as has been set out in the previous chapter, the first meeting of the court was held in the little old Methodist church at Wapakoneta, an arrangement having been entered into by and be-

tween the trustees of the church and the county commissioners providing for such use of the church building until a court house could be erected. The record of the court for Auglaize county opened with the initial notation in Law Record 1, as follows: "Pleas before the court of common pleas of Auglaize county, State of Ohio, at the May session, A. D. 1848, present Patrick Goode, president judge, and George W. Holbrook, David Simpson and John McLean, his associates." The first case was that of John Young vs. Robert Branam, the court entering judgment against defendant for \$17.02, with costs of \$2.71, the suit having been based on a \$10 loan made by Branam from Young "for the purpose of buying furs and skins" on December 12, 1845.

The probate court's records open with the notations as of the 1st day of May, 1848, Franklin Linzee, judge. Chancery Record No. 1 opens with the following notation: "Pleas at Wapakoneta before the Honorable Patrick G. Goode, president, and David Simpson, George W. Holbrook and John McLean, his associate judges of the court of common pleas of the county of Auglaize, in the State of Ohio, of the term of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight." The initial case in this court was that of Jared Gates vs. Fanny Gates, divorce, the application being based upon the ground of desertion, in that the wife was alleged to have left her home and gone to Indiana with "some person unknown to your petitioner." The petition was granted, the court ordering that "the said Jared Gates be absolved from said marriage contract."

Judge Goode and his associates continued on the bench until, under the Constitution of 1851, Allen, Hardin, Shelby, Auglaize, Madison, Union and Logan counties were erected in one common pleas district (District 3, Subdivision 1), of which Benjamin F. Metcalf was elected judge. The first notation in the order book carrying Judge Metcalf's orders in Auglaize county is that of the March term, 1851, being the "proceedings of the court of common pleas of the county of Auglaize, State of Ohio, of the term of March, A. D. 1851,

before the Hon. Ben Metcalf, judge of said court," and it is to be observed that the order was signed simply Ben Metcalf, the judge apparently eschewing the more rounded Benjamin F. of parental sanction in his official capacity.

Law Record No. 1 (District Court) opens with the record of the Auglaize Supreme Court, "pleas at Wapakoneta before the honorables Edward Avery and Rufus P. Spaulding, judges of the Supreme Court of the State of Ohio within and for the county of Auglaize at the June session thereof in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty," the case being that of Nicholas Zaenglein vs. John Norris, "error from Auglaize common pleas."

The juvenile court is a recent creation, established in the spring of 1908, Clement A. Stueve then being judge of the probate court, jurisdiction presently being vested in the court of common pleas and the probate court, with the judge of the latter court acting as judge of the juvenile court. The value of this court's service in dealing with youthful offenders has been demonstrated in many effective ways.

The record of marriages is kept in the office of the probate court. Marriage Record 1 opens with the initial entry of the marriage license granted to Michael Bixler and Catherine Oswalts, March 11, 1848, which was returned on May 15 following with the certificate of Peter Hauck, M. G., attesting the solemnization of the marriage on the 12th of March. The second license was that granted on March 14 to James Sunderland and Jemima Baker, who were married on March 16 by Simon Whetstone, J. P. The next license was that granted to William Thompson and Sarah Carter, March 21, this couple being married on the 23d of the same month by Robert C. Layton, J. P., and so on through the years since, the current record being Book 14, a very much larger volume than the little old time stained book which carried the record of the first marriages in the newly organized county. This first book carried the licenses and certificates of solemnization up to 1855 and covered 409 pages, the last entry in that book being that of a license granted to Newton Bigelow and Paul-

ine Richardson, February 9, 1855, the ceremony of marriage being performed by David Bigelow, J. P., on the 14th following.

The naturalization records also are kept in the probate court and Naturalization Record 1 opens with an entry as of February 6, 1858, being the declaration of George Kohler, a native of the grand duchy of Baden, "that it is bona fide my intention to become a citizen of the United States," Anthony Dieker then being clerk of the court. The second application for citizenship was filed by Gottlieb Lobherz, a Wurtemberger, on March 1, 1858, and the third by Aloysius Herbst, also a Wurtemberger, on May 3, following.

The preservation by the state of vital statistics was not begun until in the summer of 1867. These records for the county also are kept in the probate court and the first birth recorded in the local records is that of Ellen Jane McCoy, born on July 5, 1867, daughter of William and Sarah Jane McCoy.

FURTHER RECORDS OF THE COURT.

When in 1858 a judicial reapportionment was made and Auglaize county was thrown into a sub-division comprised of the counties of Allen, Auglaize, Mercer, Putnam and Van-Wert, Judge Metcalf was re-elected judge of this district and so continued to occupy the bench by re-election until his death in February, 1865. Of the judges who presided over this district until the reapportionment of 1913 gave to each county its individual court of common pleas, three were citizens of Auglaize county, Judge Edwin M. Phelps, Judge William T. Mooney and Judge Fernando C. Layton, the latter of whom, a former member of Congress from this district, was elected judge of the common pleas court in 1908 and was thus serving when Auglaize county was made a separate judicial district in 1913. By successive re-elections Judge Layton is still occupying the bench. He had no opposition in the memorable election of 1920, when for the first time in the history of the county the Republicans elected their entire county ticket and

thus was the only Democrat elected to county office in that election. Judge Layton was born in this county in 1847. He was admitted to the bar when twenty-two years of age and engaged in practice at Wapakoneta, where he ever since has resided. His first public office was that of prosecuting attorney for this county, to which office he was elected in 1874. In 1890 he was elected to represent this district in Congress and thus served for six years, having been re-elected in 1892 and 1894.

The roster of judges of the probate court is given in the previous chapter, relating to county government, the present (1922) incumbent being Judge Richard E. Boesel, who was elected in 1920. Auglaize county is in the third appellate district, along with Allen, Crawford, Defiance, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan, Marion, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Union, VanWert and Wyandot counties and the times for holding the court of appeals in this county are January 2 and September 11. The court of common pleas for this county meets on January 2, May 1 and October 2.

HARKING BACK TO OTHER DAYS.

Many interesting reminiscences have been narrated concerning the old courts and the old lawyers. Of these none perhaps is more interesting than that narrated many years ago concerning the practice of Judge Ben Metcalf, who so long presided over the court in this county. "I remember," said the narrator of this incident, speaking before a meeting of the Putnam County Pioneers Association in 1885, "being present in the court room at one time when he (Metcalf) was defending a man charged with burglary. The strongest link in the chain of circumstantial evidence against the prisoner was the identification by the prosecuting witness of a piece of silver money, a Prussian thaler, which was found on the prisoner, as a part of the stolen money.

"Metcalf had managed to procure sixteen or eighteen of these Prussian thalers and when the prosecuting witness, after having identified the piece of money, was turned over to

him for cross-examination Metcalf picked up the thaler and presenting it to the witness, asked, 'Are you sure this is the piece of money you lost?' 'Yes, sir,' answered the witness. Metcalf laid it down on the table behind a book, where the witness could not, but the jury could, see it. After another question or so to the witness, during which he got one of his own thalers out of his pocket unobserved by the witness, he handed him another thaler with the remark, 'Take that piece of money again and see if there is any mark on it by which you can know it.' The witness answered that there was no particular mark, but he knew it was the same, and Metcalf placed that piece by the side of the other, and so, with a question or so between them, he got the witness to identify each of the sixteen or eighteen thalers and, finally, removing the book, he called the witness to pick out of the pile the particular thaler he claimed to have been stolen. The witness, utterly dumfounded, refused to identify any of them and the prisoner was acquitted.

"And of his eccentricities, for he was eccentric, they tell the following story: In those days there was not at any of the county seats practice enough to justify a lawyer in relying on his home practice, and the lawyers were in the habit of going from county seat to county seat as the court moved, to attend to their cases. This they called 'riding the circuit.' Upon one of these trips Judge Metcalf, in company with the other lawyers, staid all night one night at Pendleton. In the course of the evening he complained of being ill and, insisting upon it that he was going to die, called up one of his brother lawyers, handed him his pocketbook and requested his friend to give it with his last loving remembrance to his poor wife; and having thus arranged his worldly affairs, closed his eyes and composed his countenance for death. Under these solemn circumstances it was conceived eminently proper by his associates of the bar that his passage to the other world should be eased by sacred harmony, and Judge John M. Palmer was selected as one peculiarly fitted to conduct the services. Palmer, with a solemn countenance, sat

down by the bed and sang—not a hymn as expected, but a fancy little comic song to a queer, jerky sort of tune and very pathetic chorus. He had hardly finished the first verse until Metcalf, whose mouth had commenced to twitch in spite of him, raised up in bed and proceeded forthwith to kick Palmer out of the room, with the remark that they were a d—— set of heathens that wouldn't let a man die in peace. But he was cured."

ARRIVAL OF JUDGE PHELPS AT ST. MARYS.

Concerning Judge Edwin M. Phelps, one of the pioneers of Auglaize county, who was elevated to the bench in 1869 and who died in the summer of 1883 at the age of almost seventy years, it has been written by one who knew him well that "of his competency, honesty and faithfulness, the public whom he served well know." Judge Phelps was a native of Connecticut, born at Woodbury in 1813. He was prepared for college in his native state and as a youth came to Ohio, where he completed his studies at Kenyon College, from which he was graduated in 1833. He then finished his law studies under the preceptorship of Judge Lane at Norwalk and in 1835 was admitted to the bar. At that time St. Marys was the county seat town of Mercer county. He had heard good reports of the growing settlements here and decided to locate for the practice of his profession at St. Marys.

Concerning conditions at that time Judge Phelps's own words carry the best commentary. In his autobiography written in 1881, two years before his death, the judge set out that he "arrived at St. Marys on the night of the 4th of March, 1835. I reached there on foot, the little sleigh in which I had traveled having given out. I waded the river and came into town about 10 o'clock. I found a little town of about twenty houses, all log. I was too poor to leave and too depressed to stay. How kind and friendly those people were to me, but they have all passed away!" This same narrative sets out that while studying law with Judge Lane at

Norwalk in the two years just prior to his establishment at St. Marys, the young lawyer "also taught Latin, Greek and the natural sciences to a very large class of young men and women, numbering 140. Among them some have risen to distinction and many others are dead. * * * I tried to teach them well and faithfully, and many of them remembered me kindly in after years. I here met my wife, who was also engaged in teaching." Another hand has written that "Judge Phelps joined the Methodist church the first Sabbath after reaching St. Marys with his young bride, who was already an earnest Christian. In the act of joining church he received the witness of the Spirit and very often referred to it in relating his religious experience." Judge Phelps was twice elected to represent this district in the state Senate and was twice elected judge of the court of common pleas.

It was in 1824 that St. Marys became the seat of justice of Mercer county, to which the western portion of what is now Auglaize county then was attached, and maintained its position as the county seat town until 1840, when the growing population to the west and north created a movement which resulted in the establishment of the county seat at Celina. Joseph H. Crane, as president judge, held the first term of court in the fall of 1824, court being held in such rooms of convenient dimensions as were available for that purpose until 1828. In the spring of this latter year the county commissioners entered into a contract for the erection of a court house on the square now occupied by the high school building and a two-story frame building was put up, 20x24 feet in ground dimension, settlement for which was made in March of the next year (1829), the contractor being paid \$291.49. The lot had cost the county \$40.

Not long after the county seat was located there a jail was constructed of hewed logs on the south side of Spring street, near Wayne street. These logs were of oak, hewed to about a 10x14 timber and halved at the ends to make a solid wall. There were iron rods an inch and a half in thickness running through the corners to prevent the timbers from

being pried out. There was but one room to the structure and the floor and ceiling were of the same 10x14 stuff. The door was made of a double thickness of two-inch oak punch-eon, crossed diagonally and thoroughly nailed to prevent sawing out. The lock was a heavy store lock and the window was barred with iron. In the winter of 1838 an insane man was placed in the jail for safe keeping. One night he set fire to the straw pallet which served as a bed in the jail. The flame shining through the window attracted the attention of a neighbor and the prisoner was rescued, but the jail was consumed in the blaze.

THE LINZEE FAMILY.

It was in 1835 that Judge Robert Linzee, one of the first settlers of the country west of St. Marys and father of Judge Benjamin Linzee, formerly and for years judge of probate in and for Auglaize county, was elected associate judge for Mercer county. Concerning this family a bit of reminiscence here will be timely, the facts set out being credited to the collection of the late Andrew Jackson Linzee, also a lawyer and a son of the first named Judge Linzee and a brother of Judge Benjamin Linzee, of excellent memory hereabout. There it is set out that William Lindsay, a descendant of Capt. John Lindsay, who was of the clan Douglas, was born in Edinburg, Scotland, about 1705. He settled in the County Derry, Ireland, in 1739 and there established an Irish linen business which he carried on until his death. He left two sons, John and William, who came to America in 1765. John Lindsay was a sea captain and became the commander of the Providence packet, the "Hannah," that had trouble with the British man-of-war, the "Gaspé," in 1772, which incident led to the establishment of the first American navy. The second William Lindsay, or rather Linzee (for his father had changed the traditional spelling of the family name for phonetic reasons, holding that Lind-say did not form the sound Lin-zee, the customary pronunciation of the name), was a miller and settled at Endicotts Mills, twelve miles above Har-

risburg, Pa., where he had charge of the mill, and purchased a farm in the neighborhood. He had three children, a daughter, Mary, and two sons, William and Robert, the latter of whom was born at Endicotts Mills in 1773.

Robert Linzee, who became one of the most influential pioneers of this section of Ohio, moved when a child with his parents to Morgantown, Va., where his father died. He then moved with his widowed mother to the Athens settlement, in what then was the Territory Northwest of the Ohio, and in 1794 took up there a farm of 300 acres. He continued to make his home there until in 1833, when he sold his place and moved up into this section of Ohio, settling on an "eighty" west of St. Marys and thus is said to have become the first permanent settler west of that historic point in this state. His farm was on the site of the old Indian village, "Old Town," and he gave it the name of Oldtown farm. He had rendered conspicuous public service at Athens, his first commission having been that of an ensign in the army of Gen. Arthur St. Clair, territorial governor, this commission bearing date of June 13, 1801. He later served as sheriff of Athens county, representative in the Legislature from that district, associate judge for Athens county and in other capacities, and in 1835 was elected associate judge for Mercer county, which then comprised a portion of what is now Auglaize county. In all, Judge Robert Linzee rendered public service in no fewer than thirty-two different capacities. He spent his last days on his Oldtown place, his death occurring on January 31, 1849, and it was there that his family was reared, the nine children of this family including the late Judge Benjamin Linzee, formerly and for years probate judge for Auglaize county, as is set out elsewhere. The old red brick house of the Linzees on the north bank of the Grand Reservoir is still standing, one of the real historic landmarks of this region.

Judge Benjamin Linzee was about five years of age when his father moved up into this country and he grew to manhood on the "Oldtown" farm west of St. Marys on the north bank of the Grand Reservoir. He completed his schooling at

Piqua and when twenty-three years of age was elected treasurer of Mercer county, a position he occupied for nine years. In 1867 he located at Wapakoneta, where for three years he was engaged in the hardware business. Meanwhile he had been continuing his studies in law under local preceptorship and presently was admitted to the bar and began the practice of law at Wapakoneta. In 1888 he was elected judge of the probate court and by successive re-elections served in this capacity for nine years, after which he resumed his practice and so continued, at the same time developing his considerable land and oil interests, until his death when well past ninety years of age.

QUAINT STORY OF THE OLD COURT.

When the first seat of justice throughout this region was established at St. Marys (then in Mercer county) this county was included with Montgomery, Miami, Shelby, Allen and VanWert counties in the old Third judicial district. As noted above, Judge Crane was president judge when the first court was held at St. Marys. During the following fourteen years Judge Holt presided, followed by Judges Helfinstein and Goode, who each presided seven years. The presiding judge rode around the circuit accompanied by the lawyers, after the manner of the old "circuit riding" days. There, of course, were but few law books in the circuit and each lawyer was compelled to rely upon his individual legal ability, independent of reference. Judge Crane's reminiscences carry the following story relating to an incident connected with the first court held at St. Marys. The grand jury had "retired" to the easy comfort of a pile of logs under a large shade tree to hold a deliberative session. The judge was in the cabin court room awaiting the report of the grand jury when a burly fellow wearing a red hunting shirt came forward, leaned his rifle against the side of the door and, placing a hand against each side of the door cheek, asked the court: "Do you know this old hoss?"

The court took in the situation and said, "Mr. Sheriff, put the 'old hoss' in the stable until further orders." The sheriff conducted the fellow to the place used as a jail and when he became sober the judge directed the sheriff to "turn the 'old hoss' out." It was afterward that the jail above referred to was erected, the structure that was burned by the act of an insane prisoner. Afterward a two-story log house on Front street was used as a jail, the sheriff living in the house. The old court room was on the second floor of the court house, the steps to the same ascending from the outside; the county offices occupying the first floor. An older chronicle relates that "owing to the exposure and inconvenience of those days they were careful to not hold court during cold weather."

In addition to the county courts, there are two justices of the peace, with magisterial powers, in each township, the present (1922) justices being as follows: Clay township, J. W. Bailey and M. L. McDougale; Duchouquet, R. G. Herrmann and B. G. Belcher; German, Theodore Purpus and Ferd Nieter; Goshen, J. R. Cordrey and George Conrad; Jackson, Louis Drees and J. B. Piening; Logan, Clarence Lathrop and D. M. Ramga; Moulton, Green Bailey; Noble, John Folkner; Pusheta, John C. Fisher and Lorenzo D. Williams; Salem, J. T. Reed and A. S. Gierhart; St. Marys, Tim Milnor and G. M. Radabaugh; Union, W. B. Watt and C. M. Metz; Washington, A. H. Steinecker and E. J. Rodeheffer, and Wayne township, Marion Ohler and S. H. Smith. There is an excellent law library attached to the court in the court house at Wapakoneta. The present (1922) officers of the court are: Judge, Fernando C. Layton; clerk, Bert T. Blume; deputy clerk, William E. Keve; prosecuting attorney, Karl Timmermeister; sheriff, Bob Ewing; deputy sheriff, Ed May; official stenographer, Clifford Blair; court bailiff, Robert C. Howell; custodian, Joseph Sell, and jury commissioners, S. H. Beal and J. T. Howard.

ROSTER OF THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY BAR.

The present roster of the attorneys practicing at the bar of the common pleas court of Auglaize county and resident in this county follows: Robert B. Anderson, David A. Armstrong, Otto Boesel, Lawrence C. Brodbeck, Frank P. Connaughton, Arthur L. Combs, W. T. Copeland, Anthony Culliton, Henry R. Dittmer, L. C. Hirsch, Samuel A. Hoskins, Jacob T. Koenig, John H. Koenig, Roy E. Layton, Emmett D. Lusk, John H. Musser, Rolla Rogers, Lewis Stout, Clement A. Stueve, Theodore H. Tangeman, Karl Timmermeister and Herman S. Vaubel.

In addition to these the following lawyers, formerly resident in Auglaize county, have practiced at the bar of this court in years past: Jacob Alsbaugh, George W. Andrews, Christian Barr, L. N. Blume, Francis Bowsher, Theodore Brotherton, Charles Bullock, John Caples, John J. Connaughton, Calvin T. Cook, C. W. Cowen, Joseph B. Craig, William M. Crane, George R. Davis, W. E. Detweiler, Benjamin Devore, Michael Dumbroff, Samuel Gnagi, J. H. Goeke, Eugene A. Hauss, David Hirsch, Jr., Charles F. Herbst, Frederick M. Horn, Philip Jackson, Gilbert Kennedy, Mark Kolter, Thomas Lane, C. A. Layton, Fernando C. Layton, W. V. M. Layton, Benjamin Linzee, A. J. Lusk, R. D. Marshall, William Miles, Daniel F. Mooney, William T. Mooney, Samuel R. Mott, Sr., Samuel R. Mott, Jr., William McKee, Robert McMurray, E. S. Nichols, Clement Ohler, Edwin M. Phelps, Joseph Plunkett, L. C. Sawyer, John T. Schoonover, M. D. Shaw, L. M. Sikes, Charles V. Smith, Edward Smith, R. B. South, D. J. VanAnda, F. C. VanAnda, John C. VanAnda, A. N. Vandeman, Ed B. Walkup, John Walkup, Joseph J. Walter, Alexander Waters, R. L. Waters, Anthony F. Wendeln, John S. Williams and C. W. Williamson.

The Auglaize County Law Library and Bar Association was incorporated on January 25, 1895, the following members of the bar being the incorporators: L. N. Blume, F. M. Horn, J. H. Goeke, M. D. Shaw, J. J. Walter, George R.

Davis, S. A. Hoskins and C. A. Layton. The initial officers of this association were as follows: President, L. N. Blume; vice-president, C. A. Stueve; secretary and librarian, F. M. Horn; treasurer, C. A. Layton; trustees, L. N. Blume, C. A. Stueve, George R. Davis, J. H. Goeke and J. J. Connaughton. The present (1922) officers of this association are: President, C. A. Stueve; vice-president, Otto J. Boesel; secretary and librarian, Robert B. Anderson; treasurer, Emmett D. Lusk, and trustees, Anthony Culliton, Lewis Stout and J. T. Koenig. The association maintains an admirable law library in the court house.

CHAPTER VI.

AGRICULTURAL.

The Indians of course were the first farmers of this region, though from all accounts they were very indifferent farmers, being content with implements of the crudest character and equally content to let the women do the work, which latter arrangement probably saved them from starvation. The buck Indian apparently would have gone without corn rather than to bestir himself in the raising of it. As has been set out in a previous chapter, a good deal of corn was raised by the aboriginals along the banks of the streams hereabout and when the Quaker mission brought to them better tools the squaws had a somewhat easier time of it in their fields, but at best there was little system in their agricultural operations. The holding by the Shawnees of their reservation of ten miles square in the very heart of what is now Auglaize county until 1832 retarded settlement and agricultural operations here until long after surrounding communities had got a good start along that line, but it was not long after the Indians had gone until all their former lands were taken up by settlers and farming began in earnest. The development since then of the agricultural interests of the county has been about that of the normal development of farming communities in the middle west and has kept pace with similar development in the neighboring counties, both in general farming and in stock raising.

The memory of many still living and still active in farm development in Auglaize county can hark back—no doubt painfully—to the days when the clearing of the forest wilderness to make way for agricultural operations was not yet a completed task. To those who cleared the forests and drained

the swamps the present generation owes a debt of gratitude that never can be repaid and of which it too often is thoughtlessly indifferent. The pioneer hereabouts had a gigantic task on his hands, a task requiring a stout heart, a strong will to do and hands able in service. The clearing of the lands, the elimination of the swamps, the making of the roads and countless other tasks of development necessitated incessant labor. Not only that, but it necessitated a sacrifice of personal comfort that few of the present generation would willingly face. But the task was done, somehow, and now in the third and fourth generation the beneficiaries of that herculean task are inheritors of the legacy that the far-seeing pioneers had in mind when they were striving mightily for posterity.

STRIKING COMMENTARY ON CHANGING CONDITIONS.

Viewing the well tilled fields and the well equipped farm plants visible on all sides as one drives about over the admirable highways of Auglaize county today, it is difficult properly to visualize the conditions out of which these priceless benefits arose. From the unspeakable mud roads or "corduroy" nightmares of another day, with stumbling ox teams or quivering horses straining mightily in their task of transportation, to the automobiles of today gliding smoothly over stone or cement highways is, indeed, a far cry—the most striking commentary possible upon the change in conditions that has taken place within the memory of men still active in service.

Of the atrocious character of those early highways much has been said and yet the subject never can be given full justice. While earlier writers have left some graphic records of the condition of the roads in the '30s and '40s, much must be left to the imagination, for the highways simply were indescribably bad. Vast areas were nothing but swamps, which the sluggish streams never fully drained. The level plain was covered with a forest that shut out the sun from the rank mold, and this—like a sponge—held the accumulated waters. Most of the year a journey over the roads was simply a slow, laborious wallowing through mud; the bogs were passable

only by the use of "corduroy," and this corduroy of poles laid side by side for miles were held in place by strips of timber nailed on the ends, and not infrequently had to be weighted down with stone or dirt to prevent floating off when the swamp waters rose.

For a graphic and illuminating first-hand description of these corduroy roads, the reader is recommended to look up his Dickens and in that famous author's "American Notes" peruse again the traveler's description of his trip by special stage coach from Columbus to Tiffin, on his way to Sandusky, in 1842. A corduroy road through a swamp was a corduroy road through a swamp and Charles Dickens has preserved a picture of such a contrivance that will live. Conditions along the makeshifts for highways over here in what presently came to be Auglaize county must have been much the same as those along the Columbus-Tiffin road—probably worse, if possible—and the reader thus will be able to gain some conception of the difficulties that beset the traveler in those days back in the '30s and '40s.

Prior to the construction of the plank road between Wapakoneta and St. Marys, it was an all-day journey to make the trip from one point to the other. Farmers living east of Wapakoneta having occasion to go to R. B. Gordon's flour mill or Gibson's woolen mill (two flourishing industries in St. Marys of that day) invariably would go one day and return the next, unless they elected to travel the greater part of the night. That the character of the thoroughfares impeded growth, handicapped commerce and held in check the influences that are essential to development is very obvious to the student of that development within the borders of Auglaize county. The difficulties that were overcome and the building up of the community in spite of such a handicap is an evidence of the sturdiness of the stock that peopled this county, and to those sturdy pioneers all honor is due.

With improved roads, the coming of the railroads and betterment of transportation came better markets, all stimulating the promotion of better methods of farming and the

modern farm plant is thus the natural and inevitable development. It is interesting to speculate what will be witnessed in the next generation in the way of further development. Power equipment on the farm is still a comparatively new thing and its possibilities seem limitless.

SYSTEMATIC CAMPAIGN OF ROAD BUILDING.

Happily, there are numerous deposits of excellent gravel in the county and when a systematic campaign of road construction was entered upon these proved invaluable. There are numerous deposits as yet unopened and the supply of gravel for road building thus seems practically inexhaustible. Under the direction of the state highway commission Auglaize county is maintaining its place along with many other counties of the state in the construction of stone and concrete highways and the "trunk" roads of the county are in admirable shape, an aid to the extension of the county's agricultural interests that is being appreciated more and more each year.

The limestone deposits which crop out in numerous places in the county also have contributed largely to the solution of the good roads problem and crushed stone forms the basis for many of the best roads in the county. These natural resources, gravel, limestone and sand, conveniently accessible, have been invaluable contributing factors in the development of the agricultural interests of the county, affording an outlet for the products of the farm that has done much in the way of stimulating production. The other great natural resource of the county, the forests, which formed the really basic source of wealth of the county before the fields were made ready for cultivation, has practically passed, though many landowners have preserved considerable tracts of native woodland. These magnificent forests contributed more than can be estimated to the early prosperity of the county, for the lumber mills and woodworking factories that sprang up all over the county offered employment to many.

Nearly all the plank that was used in the construction and maintenance of the plank road between Wapakoneta and St. Marys was the product of a saw mill at Moulton. Thousands of trees of the very best quality of whiteoak and burroak, three to five feet and more in diameter, were felled, made into saw logs and hauled to the Moulton saw mill, where they were sawed into planks of required length and thickness. The value of the timber thus used, based on present day prices, would be incalculable.

The principle source of revenue for many of the early settlers of Auglaize county was the cutting and marketing of hoop poles. Freight trains on the D. & M. (present B. & O.) railroad for a number of years would stop where there would be huge piles of hoop poles alongside the track and wait until the crew loaded up the cars. There was a market for the purchase of hoop poles in Wapakoneta and also in St. Marys, in which places large barrel factories were doing a thriving business.

IN THE DAYS OF THE GIANT OAKS.

With the exception of small tracts of prairie land here and there throughout this region the land hereabout originally was heavily timbered, the various varieties of oak predominating, as has been set out in previous pages, although there was much hickory, beech, elm, black walnut, poplar, some lynn and considerable sycamore. Necessarily, as a means of claiming the land for agricultural purposes, the greater part of this timber was cut down and burned in the days before the coming of the sawmills and adequate means of transportation offered a proper market for the same, timber that today would be of almost incalculable value thus having been destroyed. Black walnut was the first exhausted when the timbermen came in, on account of its superior value for furniture. Probably the most valuable of these giant trees were the oaks, as they grew to larger dimensions than other trees and had a greater general purpose value. Many of these oaks were as much as five or six feet in diameter, their great

boles extending above fifty feet before branching. There also were many sugar (hard maple) trees and these were eagerly utilized by the pioneers as a means of procuring sugar. Much oak bark was stripped and disposed of to the tanneries and a considerable business also was done in ashes.

Perhaps the finest timber that ever was taken from these magnificent forests was ship timber. For a number of years crews of expert hewers who had come from the East and from Canada worked out this timber in these woods. The best of oak was used. A single beam was made from the body of a giant oak; the beam was made square, as large as the diameter of the tree would permit, and it was hewed so true and smooth that it had the appearance of being planed. Some of these beams were so large and heavy that it required a six-horse team to draw a single one from the woods to the railroad. The sawmills used only a small amount of the choicest timber—walnut, ash and whiteoak—for house building material. Some of the best whiteoak was used for staves and shingles. Thousands of the finest trees were cut and burned to clear the ground for farming. After the railroads came there was a demand for fire wood in quantities, and also an enormous quantity of hickory butts were shipped to the factories for spoke timber.

THE COMING OF THE RAILROADS.

No other single factor in the development of the agricultural interests of this county was more important than the coming of the railroads, which offered an outlet to the products of the farm and the forests that stimulated all operations along this line. Prior to the operation of this mode of transportation the western part of the county had been deriving benefits from the operation of the canal, the story of which is carried in an earlier chapter, and these benefits of course were reflected throughout the whole of this region, but when the railroads began to push their way through the state there came a general demand for a railway through this sec-

tion and that demand presently was met, but not until ten years after the erection of the county.

It ought to be said in passing that the first steam transportation offered in the county was in 1850, when a steam packet was put in operation on the Grand Reservoir. How long this was maintained is not known now, but there has been no such enterprise carried on there for many years. When the reservoir was created it was not popularly looked upon as a place for pleasure seeking, but as the stumps gradually disappeared and as the banks of the artificial lake gradually began to assume definite bounds the value of the lake as a place of summer resort as well as an all-year-round resort of fishermen and duck hunters began to be appreciated. In the spring of 1850 an advertisement in the old *Republican* at Wapakoneta announced that "Mr. Doyle has placed a splendid steam packet on the reservoir, to run during the season daily from St. Marys to Celina, leaving the former at 9 o'clock a. m. and returning at 3 p. m." As the years passed and as the population of the adjacent towns increased the banks of the lake began to be dotted with cottages of summer resorters and the great reservoir for years has been regarded as one of Ohio's delightful and popular resorts, but no steamboat plies its placid waters.

There are five railroads and two traction lines traversing Auglaize county, giving a convenient outlet in all directions and offering admirable shipping facilities. The first railroad to enter the county was the old Dayton & Michigan line, which later and for years was operated as a part of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton system and when that system went under was taken over by the Baltimore & Ohio Railway Company, which has since been operating it. This line coming up from Cincinnati through Dayton, Piqua and Sidney to Wapakoneta and thence on through Lima to Toledo enters Auglaize county in section 29 of Pusheta township and passes out at the Cridersville north village line in section 35 of Duchouquet township, a distance of a little more than twelve and a half miles north and south.

The preliminary survey of this road was made in 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected, but it was not until ten years later, in 1858, that the road was in operation through Wapakoneta, giving to the people of this county in that year their first railway connection with the outer world. It is narrated that when this project was under way the financiers of the same found their resources running short and contemplated making the northern terminus of the road at Sidney, but that Dr. George W. Holbrook and George W. Andrews, two of the leading "fathers" of Wapakoneta came to the rescue of their home town and aroused the interest of others to the point that presently they were able to secure by popular subscription the sum of \$70,000 which they offered to the projectors of the road as a bonus to induce them to extend the line north, and it was thus that Auglaize county got its first railroad and secured the needed rail outlet to the lake on the north and the river on the south.

The Lake Erie & Western railroad was the next to enter the county, giving further connection with the lake (at Sandusky) and a much needed outlet west. This line enters the county at the north line of section 31 in Duchouquet township, proceeds southwesterly through the village of Buckland and Glynwood to St. Marys and thence west to Celina, Coldwater and Ft. Recovery and on into Indiana, leaving this county on the south line of section 31 of Noble township, with a branch line to Minster. It was in 1872 that this line came into Auglaize county and the event was made one of much rejoicing at St. Marys, New Bremen and Minster, which cities were becoming restive under the conditions which restricted their traffic to the canal, whereas most of their commercial and industrial rivals had by that time long been enjoying the advantages of rail traffic. This road originally was organized as the Lake Erie & Louisville railway and was so called until some time after it reached this county on its way down from Fremont. The road was completed to Minster and then the projectors changed their plan and built on west from St. Marys, with Peoria, Ill., as a western terminus

in mind rather than a southern terminus at Louisville. Since then the line from St. Marys to Minster has been operated as a branch line. The length of this road through the county is a fraction more than sixteen miles, and the branch line almost ten miles.

The next road to enter the county was the old Ohio Southern railroad, later known as the Detroit Southern and then the Detroit & Ironton (of unhappy memory), which in 1921 came under the individual ownership of Henry Ford, who proceeded to work out some quite interesting experiments in industrialism as applied to railway operation and who now is said actually to have put the road on a profitable basis for the first time in its somewhat uncertain financial history. The Ford road enters Auglaize county from the north in section 5 of Union township, proceeds in an almost due southerly course through the villages of Uniopolis, St. Johns and Geyer and passes on out at the south line of section 28 of Clay township, a length of about eleven and one-quarter miles. It also gives this county further connection with the lake, at Toledo, and a further outlet to the south through Springfield. It was completed through this county in 1892.

Five years later, in 1897, Auglaize county discovered that it was to have another railroad, this to give an east and west route for traffic. Such a line was so greatly needed that the people of the county rallied to the aid of the projected enterprise and not only gave the projectors free right of way through the county but raised an additional bonus of \$57,000 to aid in construction. This was the old Columbus & Northwestern line, with its western terminus at St. Marys in this county, and originally was operated as a branch of the Detroit & Lima Northern line. It was completed in 1900 and almost immediately thereafter was taken over by the Toledo & Ohio Central system, which since has operated the line. This road enters Auglaize county at the village of Santa Fe in the southeast corner of the county, section 25 of Clay township, touches Gutman, in the center of that township,

crosses the Ford road between Geyer and St. Johns, proceeds on northwesterly to Wapakoneta and thence on west through Moulton to St. Marys, its western terminus, a distance through the county of about twenty-three miles.

It was about twenty years ago that Auglaize county got its first electric traction line, the first cars on the local branch of the Western Ohio Electric Railway Company's lines being operated in 1902. There are three branches of this line in this county, the one north and south coming down from Lima, entering this county at the village of Cridersville and paralleling the B. & O. railroad line down through Wapakoneta and on south, continuing to parallel the railroad, and on to Sidney and Piqua. Another branch of the line extends from Wapakoneta to St. Marys and thence on west to Celina, and the third branch is operated between St. Marys and Minster, taking in also the town of New Bremen. The great power house of the Western Ohio lines at St. Marys furnishes power and light to many of the towns and villages hereabout and has proved of much utilitarian value to the whole community. The car barns are located at Wapakoneta. Another electric line operating through this county is the Ohio Electric railway, operating between Defiance and Springfield, which enters the county from the north in section 2 of Union township, proceeds southeasterly through the villages of Waynesfield and New Hampshire and passes out at the south line of section 9 of Goshen township, a distance through the county of about eight miles. At this writing (summer of 1922) the Ohio Electric railway is undergoing a receivership and that branch of the road through this county is being operated under the name of the Indiana, Columbus & Eastern.

SOME STATISTICS ON AGRICULTURE FOR 1920.

The report of the chief statistician for agriculture for the fourteenth decennial census of the United States (1920) gives the approximate land area of the state of Ohio as 26,073,600 acres and the number of farms in the state as 256,695, these covering 23,515,888 acres, of which 18,542,353 acres

are treated as improved land, 3,198,929 acres as woodland, and 1,774,606 acres as other improved land in farms. This shows 90.2 per cent of the state's land area in farms, 78.9 per cent of which is treated as improved. The average acreage per farm was 91.6, of which 72.2 per cent is treated as improved acreage. The value of all farm property is given as \$3,095,666,336, of which \$2,015,112,999 is credited to land, \$646,322,950 to buildings, \$146,575,269 to implements and machinery and \$287,655,118 to live stock. The average value per farm is given as \$12,060, of which \$7,850 is credited to land, \$2,518 to buildings, \$571 to implements and machinery and \$1,121 to live stock.

The census for the year 1850, the decennial period following the organization of Auglaize county, gave the number of farms in Ohio as 143,807, covering 17,997,493 acres, of which 9,851,493 acres were treated as improved land. In that same year the value of all farm property in the state was given as \$415,630,929, of which \$358,759,603 was credited to land and buildings, \$12,750,585 to implements and machinery, and \$44,121,741 to live stock. At that time the average acreage in an Ohio farm was 125 acres, of which 68.5 was treated as improved, and the average value of a farm was \$2,890, of which \$2,495 was credited to land and buildings, \$89 to implements and machinery and \$307 to live stock. The average value (per acre) of farm property in that year was \$23.09, of which \$19.93 was credited to land and buildings.

With the above as a basis of comparison, it is noted in the 1920 census report that the number of farms in Auglaize county is 2,625, as against 2,810 for the year 1900, and the number of farmers—male, 2,547; female, 79. Of these farms, 1,085 were listed as from 50 to 99 acres, 416 from 20 to 49 acres, 120 from 10 to 19 acres, 55 from three to nine acres, and five under three acres. There are two farms of more than 1,000 acres, five from 500 to 999 acres, 43 from 260 to 499 acres, 126 from 175 to 259 acres and 769 from 100 to 174 acres. The approximate land area of the county is given as 254,080, of which 240,568 acres are included in farms, 203,146 acres of

which are treated as improved, 30,837 as woodland and 6,585 as "other improved land in farms." This is 94.7 per cent of the land area of the county, and the average improved acreage per farm is given as 77.4 per cent. The value of all farm property in the county is given as \$40,822,276, as against \$12,590,092 for the year 1900. Of this the value of the land was given at \$28,844,338; farm buildings, \$6,738,643; implements and machinery, \$1,785,719; live stock, \$3,453,576. The average land value per acre (land alone) was given at \$119.90; all property (per farm), \$15,545. Of these farms, 68.1 per cent were operated by the owners of the same, 31.3 per cent by tenants and the remainder by managers.

The value of all domestic animals on the farms of Auglaize county is given in this report as \$3,168,028, of which the sum of \$1,058,116 is credited to horses, \$32,815 to mules, \$1,225 to asses and burros, \$1,202,941 to cattle, \$95,863 to sheep, \$38 to goats and \$777,030 to swine; while the value of poultry was given at \$283,198 and of bees \$2,350. There were a total of 9,947 horses reported, 260 mules, 4 asses and burros, 22,759 cattle, 8,907 sheep, 10 goats, 56,797 swine, 300,944 chickens and other poultry and 1,069 hives of bees. There were 2,392,098 gallons of milk produced and 1,399,485 eggs produced, while the wool produced amounted to 55,071 pounds.

In this report it is noted that the value of the cereal crops amounted to \$5,520,179; other grains and seeds \$159,550; hay and forage, \$1,140,795; vegetables, \$220,566; fruits and nuts, \$28,966; all other crops, \$19,125, or a total value of all crops in the county for the year 1919 of \$7,089,181. The acreage planted to corn in that year was given as 51,125, which produced 2,078,519 bushels; oats, 23,634 acres—938,289 bushels; wheat, 35,637 acres—717,382 bushels; barley, 3,166 acres—76,375 bushels; rye, 1,181 acres—17,158 bushels, and buckwheat, twenty-one acres—270 bushels, a total of 115,178 acres to the cereal crops, with a total production of 3,828,303 bushels. Hay and forage crops, 47,224 acres, with a total production of 63,982 tons; potatoes (Irish or white), 884 acres,

47,891 bushels; maple trees tapped, 9,053, producing 3,266 gallons of sirup. Of the orchard fruits, 7,095 bushels of apples were harvested, peaches, 33; pears, 912; plums, 190; cherries, 497, and of grapes, 58,517 pounds. There were 986 farms reporting free from mortgage debt, 607 with mortgage debt and 196 not reporting.

As a matter of interesting historical comparison, a compilation of statistical information from the county auditor's records for the year 1878, just prior to the general industrial and agricultural "awakening" in this county in the '80s, may properly be considered here. In that year 247,894 acres of land were reported for taxation, of a value of \$4,240,730; real estate in villages, \$1,330,010; chattel property, \$2,052,820; 8,157 horses, of a value of \$316,357; cattle, 14,780, of a value of \$154,548, and sheep, 14,405, of a value of \$26,650. It was reported that 3,192 acres were planted to orchards, these producing 1,703 bushels of apples, twenty-five bushels of peaches and 134 bushels of pears; wheat, 22,109 acres, producing 337,355 bushels; corn, 39,975 acres, producing 1,026,343 bushels, and oats, 11,295 acres, producing 371,804 bushels. The total value of the county's taxables in that year was \$7,623,560.

The agricultural production in the year 1887 (another comparative date) as compiled from statistics in the auditor's office, was as follows: Wheat sown, 40,955 acres, producing 650,985 bushels; rye, 432 acres—7,235 bushels; buckwheat, 732 acres—2,169 bushels; oats, 7,836 acres—250,536 bushels; barley, 940 acres—26,304 bushels; corn, 35,398 acres—1,292,450 bushels; meadow, 9,946 acres—9,362 tons; clover, 7,946 acres—8,704 tons of hay and 3,106 bushels of seed; potatoes, 1,439 acres—108,747 bushels, and tobacco, twenty acres, which produced 9,085 pounds.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY'S SERIOUS DRAINAGE PROBLEM.

The first general drainage law of Ohio was an act of February 8, 1847, authorizing the establishment of drains by county commissioners upon petition from one or more interested landowners. Viewers were appointed to locate the

ditch and assess damages. It was this law that was operative when Auglaize county was erected in 1848 and a good part of the records of the county commissioners for the first few years of the county's history is made up of entries relating to such drainage projects. By an amendment in 1851, the viewers also assessed benefits against the land. When the petitioners had paid the damages and constructed the ditch, they might collect the benefits as confirmed by the commissioners. A township ditch law of May 1, 1854, was similar to that of February 24, 1853. Both of these laws were repealed by the county ditch law of March 24, 1859. An act of March 2, 1853, authorized the county commissioners to drain the swamp land granted to the state by Congress, payment to be made from funds realized from the sale of that land. This act was repealed on April 13, 1894. Most of the drainage enterprises in this county are county ditches established according to an act passed on April 12, 1871. An act passed on June 19, 1919, codifies all the ditch laws of the state and repeals the earlier forms without changing the general character of the enterprises.

The law of 1919 provides that ditches or drains may be established by the board of county commissioners upon petition of one or more of the landowners to be affected by the project. A preliminary survey and estimates are made by the county engineer and public hearing then is held by the county commissioners. The drain is established upon finding that it is necessary or will be advantageous. Final orders of the board are subject to appeal to the court of common pleas. The drainage plan and apportionment of costs are made by the engineer. The cost is assessed against the land in proportion to benefits; the assessments are equalized and confirmed by the commissioners, and then are appealable to the common pleas court. The assessments are to be paid in ten semiannual installments. Construction of the drainage works is under the supervision of the county engineer. The commissioners may issue bonds to finance the improvement. The act provides that right of way for a private drain across

the land of an objecting owner may be obtained through petition to the trustees of the township and payment of the damages awarded by them.

Joint county ditches providing drainage of land in more than one county are specially authorized by an act of June 12, 1911. The petition for establishment under this law must be signed by fifty or more interested persons, establishment is ordered by the joint action of the commissioners of the counties affected and plans and estimates for the improvement are made by the county engineers jointly. The cost is apportioned among the counties by joint action of the county boards and each county surveyor makes the assessments against the lands in his county. Each county may issue joint county ditch bonds to run not longer than twenty years. The greater part of the township ditches were established under an act of April 18, 1874, which was in effect until the new law of 1919. This law authorized the establishment of ditches by the township trustees upon application from one or more owners of land adjacent to the proposed drain, after public hearing. Plans for the improvement were made and claims for damages were determined by the trustees, who also apportioned the work of construction among the landowners according to benefits. Appeals from decisions of the trustees regarding the utility or location of the ditch and the awards of damages might be taken to the probate court for jury trial. For work not performed within the specified time, contract was let by the trustees and the cost was charged to the delinquent landowners. Ditches in two or more townships might be established by joint action of the trustees of those townships, under an act of April 19, 1898. A great many amendments to the act of 1874 have been made, but the character of the enterprises has not been changed.

In the very illuminative and comprehensive Atlas of Auglaize County, compiled and published in 1917 by J. H. Meyer, former county surveyor, it is pointed out that the western and central portions of Auglaize county are drained principally by the Auglaize and St. Marys rivers, while the eastern and

southeastern watersheds are toward the Miami and Sciota rivers. These streams furnish the outlet for the majority of the artificial ditches which have been constructed privately and under the provisions of the Ohio ditch laws. "Probably no other county in Ohio has given as much attention to its land drainage as has Auglaize," observes Mr. Meyer in this connection. "There is scarcely an eighty-acre farm within its boundaries which has not been touched by one or more county or township ditches. These are of two kinds of construction, viz: 'open' and 'tile.' The tile ditches vary in size from six inches to thirty inches in diameter; the open ditches have been dug with bottom widths of from one foot to thirty-six feet. A vast amount of money has been expended on their construction, but without them thousands of acres of the most fertile soil would have remained useless." Mr. Meyer's review then gives in detail a tabulation of all the county ditches which have been constructed in this county, beginning with ditch No. 1, the Wendeln ditch, ordered in 1868, a very informative tabulation which has thus been made available to all inquirers without the trouble of searching the records of the county surveyor's office.

THE PUBLIC ROADS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY

In this same connection, Mr. Meyer's compilation gives a list of all the improved highways of the county, showing the time of their construction, length of the road, cost of same and material from which constructed, this list beginning with the German township gravel road, constructed for a length of two miles in 1874 at a cost of \$2,700. The next improved highway was the Schmieder gravel road, something more than seven and one-half miles in length, constructed in 1876 at a cost of \$22,840, and so on down through the years the list goes. In 1876 seven gravel roads were built in the county. In 1880 there was a general road improvement movement and sixteen gravel roads were built. Then in 1882 there were seventeen such roads constructed, the farmers of the county

by that time having come to realize the benefit of better highways. During the years since the good roads movement has kept pace with the demands of the times and surroundings and Auglaize county may well pride herself upon her excellent system of highways.

Stone roads did not come into their own until in 1901, when the Bensman stone road, a distance of two miles, was ordered at a cost of \$4,322. In 1902 two more such roads were constructed, the Osterloh road, one mile, at a cost of \$2,541, and the Wuebker road, a distance of two miles, at a cost of \$4,885. Until the coming of the paved highway stone and macadam pretty generally took the place of the former gravel-road construction and the highways constructed during the past twenty years are standing the test admirably. The impetus given the good roads movement by the coming of the automobile about that time has been maintained and further improvements are being contemplated.

It was in 1917, under the direction of the state highway commission, that the era of paved roads was ushered in in Auglaize county. The first bit of paved roadway undertaken by the state in this county was the road between St. Marys and New Bremen in that year. This road was of macadam treated with a tarvia surface. In the next year the St. Marys-Wapakoneta highway was paved, three miles of brick pavement out of St. Marys and eight miles of concrete road west out of Wapakoneta. Two years later, in 1920, the Wapakoneta-Bellefontaine highway project was taken up, a tarvia road being constructed by the state east of Wapakoneta to St. Johns, from which latter point on east through the county to New Hampshire and beyond the road is of concrete construction. There also is a stretch of highway, one mile in length, the Barber road, in Salem township, built by the state. At present (1922) there are thirty-eight and one-half miles of paved highway in Auglaize county, constructed under the direction of the state highway commission, 143.5 miles of improved township roads and 601.8 miles of improved county roads. The present program of the state highway commis-

sion contemplates the early completion in this county of certain other paved roads which will bring the state's system of paved highways in Auglaize county up to a grand total of 104.7 miles. This system will include the twelve miles of the Lima-Sidney road (the Dixie highway) through this county by way of Wapakoneta (now under construction), the road from Wapakoneta to Ft. Amanda, the Kenton road east from Wapakoneta through Waynesfield and Holden, the Lima-Bellefontaine road cutting through the northeast corner of this county, the Lima-Waynesfield road in Wayne township, the St. Marys-Kossuth road, the St. Marys-Piqua road taking in the towns of New Bremen and Minster in this county, the St. Marys-VanWert road through the northwestern section of the county, the St. Marys-Celina road west, the St. Marys-Ft. Wayne road northwest, the St. Marys-Botkins (Sidney) road, the St. Marys-Monticello road and the road west from Minster to Ft. Recovery, these of course being additional to the highways already paved and of which mention has been made above, the system of inter-county roads being designed eventually to connect all county seats and important villages in the state.

COUNTY'S FIRST GRAVEL ROAD.

As has been pointed out elsewhere, the character of the pioneer highways of the county, mere trails they were in many cases, operated as a drawback to agricultural development, which the early settlers soon sought to overcome. It was not long after the time of the erection of Auglaize county in 1848 that the people of the county began to bestir themselves in the matter of better roads. There were no public funds for roads in those days, nor was there adequate provisions of law for the construction of public roads and highways were constructed under private enterprises. The first road of this sort to be constructed in this county was the toll pike road built in 1850 from Sidney to Wapakoneta, following the line of the old military "trace" through this region. This road had emerged from its swamp state and its corduroy state

and there was sufficient travel being developed along the route to stimulate the operations of a stock company of citizens of the two towns formed for the purpose of building a toll pike. The experiment was successful and an excellent gravel road was constructed, newspaper references to this road following its construction having been of the most flattering character.

The success of this road pointed the way for an improved highway between St. Marys and Wapakoneta and another stock company was organized for the purpose of constructing a plank road between these two points, the same to be operated as a toll road. This plank road in course of time gave way to a gravel road, as did all the plank roads of that period, the old experiments with plank roads never having proved very effective, and the toll pikes served well their day and generation until the days of the free roads came in. There are evidences, however, that some of the stockholders in these ancient projects were a bit backward about meeting their stock obligations, for early in 1852 in the columns of the old *Wapakoneta Republican* there is published an advertisement calling the attention of the subscribers to the project of building a plank road from St. Marys to Wapakoneta to the fact that subscriptions to the project would mature on April 1, 1852, and would be collected. In the fall of that same year notice was given through the same medium that suit would be brought against subscribers for collection of the unpaid subscriptions to the Sidney and Wapakoneta turnpike road.

Though the "two-mile assessment law" to encourage the construction of better roads had been operative since 1848, it was not until in the '70s that Auglaize county became awakened to the fact that something along that line must be done in this county. As usual, in the matter of projects for the public good that involve the expenditure of considerable sums of money, there was much opposition in certain quarters and the proponents of good roads evidently had a hard row to hoe for a while, but they had their way, even as they now are having their way in the matter of projects requiring a

far greater expenditure, and it was not long until the whole population was won over to the good roads idea.

Professor Williamson observes in his review written in 1905 that "the first concerted effort in behalf of gravel pikes in Auglaize county took place on September 26, 1874, in the office of Hon. George W. Andrews in Wapakoneta. In the eight years following this meeting eight pikes were constructed. Much bitter feeling and excitement prevailed in the fall and winter of 1879-80 when seventeen petitions were presented to the commissioners praying for an aggregate construction of 113 miles of pike at an estimated cost of \$234,065. Like all public improvements requiring the expenditure of large sums of money and requiring the levying of taxes upon the property of the county, the people, as usual, became alarmed and in some sections of the county, especially the northwestern portion, they became violent in their opposition to the petitions. The better judgment of the people, however, prevailed, and the pikes were constructed." Between the years 1876 and 1900 there were more than 365 miles of pike roads constructed in this county under the two-mile road law at a cost of more than \$800,000, or a fraction more than \$2,198 a mile.

BEGINNING OF CAMPAIGN FOR PAVED ROADS.

It soon was found that the cost of keeping these pikes in repair was becoming an apparently needless burden, and during the next twenty years the county was annually put to large expense for pike maintenance, particularly during the latter part of this period, when it was found that many of the roads had to be practically reconstructed; for example, in 1892 the county was at an expense of \$3,407 for pike repair; 1893, \$9,190; 1894, \$16,322; 1895, \$22,771; 1896, \$11,022; 1897 \$16,854; 1898, \$19,398; 1899 \$16,676; 1900, \$15,896; 1901, \$16,840, and so on through the years, a gradually increasing item of expense.

It was early in 1917 that concerted action was taken by a group of "forward looking" citizens of Auglaize county to

secure the advantages likely to accrue to this county under the operations of the new state highway system. In February of that year at a meeting held in the Brown theater in Wapakoneta there was organized an association looking to the permanent improvement of the highways of the county. This meeting was attended by more than 300 of the more enterprising citizens of the county and a county good roads organization was effected for the purpose of outlining and giving direction to a general program of road construction throughout the county "and to be generally active in the securing of Auglaize county's share of the State and Federal appropriations." Every township in the county was represented at this meeting and the following officers were elected: President, Albert Herzing, of St. Marys; vice president, E. Benjamin Yale, of Waynesfield; secretary, J. H. Meyer, of Wapakoneta; treasurer, E. E. Arthur, of Cridersville, besides a board of directors representing each township and incorporated town and village in the county, as follows: Salem township, J. T. Reed; Noble, John Schamp; St. Marys (township), Theodore Reed; German, Frank Kuenning; Jackson, Henry Westerheide; Logan, A. J. Walthers; Moulton, John Riebesell; Washington, Chester Howell; Duchouquet, G. W. Romshe; Pusheta, George Huebner; Union, F. E. Naus; Clay, Erwin Harrod; Wayne, C. Stanley Harrod; Goshen, C. C. Grey; St. Marys (city), Albert Herzing; New Bremen, C. V. Huenke; Minster, Fred Goeke; Cridersville, E. E. Arthur; Wapakoneta, J. H. Meyer; Buckland, Wallace Bruner; Waynesfield, E. Benjamin Yale, and Uniopolis, F. J. Rinehart. And it was thus that Auglaize county came into its inheritance in the way of paved roads.

THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

Under the operations of the Auglaize County Farm Bureau, co-operating with the Ohio State Farm Bureau Federation, the Ohio State University, the United States Department of Agriculture and the local board of county commissioners, a wonderful work is being done in this county in the

way of co-operative extension work in agriculture and home economics. This extension work, which is of recent development, is revolutionizing methods along several important lines and as its program is of sufficient elasticity to permit of indefinite expansion there seems to be no limit to its possibilities along the numerous lines its activities touch. That it has done and is doing a most important work is attested by the annually growing interest manifested in its operations by the farmers of the county and the rapidly increasing membership of the bureau, as well as of the membership of the county clubs (junior work) and the Auglaize Livestock Company (cooperative), together with the growing interest being manifested in behalf of the co-operative grain elevators.

It is but proper to say briefly in this connection that the agricultural extension service of the Ohio State University, through which agency the above local activities function, carries the teaching of the College of Agriculture to the people of the farms through personal instruction, bulletins and practical demonstrations in agriculture and home economics. The purpose of this service, as set out in its prospectus, is not only to deal with agricultural production, but also with economic problems, including marketing, distribution and utilization of farm products. In order to be of the most service to the largest number of people, the agricultural extension service is organized along lines which have been found by experience best to meet the needs of the people. The object of the work is to make farming more profitable and farm life more satisfying and the extension service is under the administrative management of the extension director, who represents the College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture. The service is recognized by both State and Federal governments as an educational agency of great value and from time to time laws have been passed which outline in general terms the kind of work to be carried on. The Smith-Lever act passed by Congress in 1914 permanently established a nation-wide system of agricultural extension under Federal financial support and provides for co-operation

between the United States Department of Agriculture and the state agricultural colleges. The service thus is supported by Federal, state and county funds, Federal funds being provided under the Smith-Lever act, state funds being appropriated by the Legislature every two years and the county funds appropriated by the county commissioners upon request of the people of the county.

Though naturally co-operating in a sense, it should be borne in mind that the agricultural extension service has no organic connection with the Farm Bureau Federation, the former being a public institution supported by public funds and answerable to the public and the latter being a private organization, answerable to its membership and to the laws of the state. While neither is responsible to the other for any part of its program, in a broad way both are interested in the same thing—making the business of farming more profitable and living in the open country more satisfying. On the other hand, the extension service in all its activities, including the work of the county agricultural agent, the home demonstration agent, the boys' and girls' club leader and the specialists, works largely through the farm bureau, and the success of its undertakings depends in no small measure upon the strength and completeness of this county organization, the county agent, therefore, as local representative of the extension service being naturally ever alert to the maintenance of a strong local organization. The extension service is interested in joining hands with other organizations, women's clubs and the like, and the point of contact of extension workers with local communities is through the county agents, who are thus really the field men for the extension service of the College of Agriculture.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY FARM BUREAU.

The work of the Auglaize County Farm Bureau was practically inaugurated in the spring of 1917 as a factor in the nation's war work activities, the Smith-Lever funds also becoming available for this purpose about that time. Her-

bert L. Andrew, the present (1922) county agent, a specialist of the agricultural extension service, who had been doing work at the state experiment station, was sent into the county for emergency work and in the fall of 1917 perfected an organization of the farm bureau, which started out with a membership of 350. In December of that year the county commissioners appropriated the sum of \$1,500 to start the work of the bureau in this county, this action securing an additional fund of \$1,600 from the Government, and on January 1, 1918, H. J. Ridge was appointed county agent to supervise the work in this county. At that time the membership fee was \$1. In 1918 the membership of the bureau was increased to 700 and in 1919 it was further increased to 900. In 1921 the membership fee was increased to \$10 for a three-years membership and the present membership of the bureau in this county is right around 1,300, distributed in the several townships as follows: Salem township, 75; Noble, 98; St. Marys, 166; German, 98; Jackson, 90; Logan, 87; Moulton, 111; Washington, 144; Duchouquet, 115; Pusheta, 82; Union, 84; Clay, 62; Wayne, 50 and Goshen, 52.

The present officers of the farm bureau are as follows: President, William J. Rhoades; vice president, Fred Fox; secretary-treasurer, Elmer Dammeyer, and an executive committee composed of representatives of each township, as follows: Salem township, J. H. Wright; Noble, William Vogel, Jr.; St. Marys, Elmer Dammeyer; German, John Zahn; Jackson, Ben Severin; Logan, Fred Fox; Washington, Louis Kuck; Moulton, August Kruse; Duchouquet, Ray Moyer; Pusheta, John Fisher; Union, Frank Naus; Clay, J. W. Finley; Wayne, D. A. Horn, and Goshen, William J. Rhoades. Co-operating with this bureau are Herbert L. Andrew, county agent; Charles M. Hampson, county club leader, and Granville Swartz, manager of the Auglaize Livestock Company. This latter association was organized in March, 1921, for the purpose of securing to the live stock farmers of Auglaize county better shipping terms and it has proved its usefulness in reducing the freight rate and in otherwise improving ship-

ping conditions to the Eastern market. During the first year of its existence the Auglaize Livestock Company (co-operative) shipped stock for more than 1,000 shippers in this county. Co-operative elevators at Wapakoneta, St. Johns, Buckland and Minster are other demonstrations of the rapidly growing "get-together" movement on the part of the farmers of this county, and there also are farmer-owned elevators at Waynesfield and New Hampshire.

ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNTY AGENT.

In February, 1920, Herbert L. Andrew, the extension specialist who had inaugurated the farm bureau work here in the spring of 1917, succeeded H. J. Ridge as county agent for Auglaize county and he is still acting in that capacity. He had had prior experience as county agent in VanWert county and at the state experiment station and since taking hold of the work in this county has done much to extend the scope of the bureau's operations and activities, the estimated result in the way of benefits from increased production derived from his first year of extension work here, expressed in money terms, being no less than \$50,000. Monthly meetings of the respective township bureaus are held, the executive committee of the county bureau also meets monthly and the annual meeting of the county bureau is held in December. This in addition to the farmers' institute work, which still is maintained in most of the townships. In 431 meetings held throughout the county during the past year of this extension work there was recorded a total attendance of 13,351, ample demonstration of the general interest being displayed in the work. The activities of Mr. Andrew's department include seed treatment, crop projects, anti-pest campaigns, farm economies, marketing projects, farm home betterment and the like and there is general agreement among all concerned that results are being obtained. Through newspaper articles and circulars letters the county agent is constantly promoting the various activities of the extension service and the farm bureau and all concerned

are thus kept in immediate touch with the promotion of any new movement looking to the betterment of farm conditions.

Another and very important feature of this co-operative extension work in agriculture and home economics and which also is carried on under the general direction of the county agent is the county club or junior work, which is under the immediate direction of Charles M. Hampson, county club leader, who has his headquarters along with the county agent in the court house. This junior work is now in its fifth year of activity under state supervision and has accomplished a wonderful work among the youth of the county, its activities being confined to the various agricultural and economic experiments and demonstrations of the youngsters from ten to eighteen years of age. Prior to the inauguration of the work under state direction in 1917 something of the same character was carried on here by the boys' and girls' calf, pig and corn clubs, but without the needed direction to give it proper efficiency. After the work was taken over by the extension service it was given local direction by the county superintendent of schools and the county agent until in 1919, when O. J. Shong was appointed county club leader. He resigned in that same year and in January, 1920, Charles M. Hampson was appointed county club leader and is still filling that position.

At the county fair in 1920 there were 204 junior club members who offered exhibits of their work, representing all townships save one, and as a reward of meritorious work eighteen of these boys and girls were given trips to Columbus as county champions in their respective lines of endeavor. In 1921 there were 498 juniors enrolled in this department of agricultural extension and 374 of these completed the club work, thus giving Auglaize county second place in junior work among the counties of the state. There are now (summer of 1922) 751 boys and girls enrolled in this work, this enrollment being exceeded in the state only in Wood county, which has 4,164 farms as against 2,625 for Auglaize county, an evidence of the interest taken in the work of the boys' and

girls' clubs in this county which speaks for itself. In the year 1921 these clubs turned out products of an aggregate value of \$12,200, at a cost of \$3,150. The enrollment in the various clubs coming within the scope of this department's activities during that year follows: Potato club, eleven members; pig club, twenty-five; baby beef club, three; poultry club, seventy-five; food club, ten and clothing club, 150. Gladys Metz, of Duchouquet township, was awarded the state championship for excellence in poultry club work. In 1919 Joy Gessler, of Uniopolis, won the state championship in food club work.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK.

Organized boys' and girls' club work in Ohio dates from the spring of 1916, when such a department was created as a part of the agricultural extension service of the Ohio State University. For several years previous there had been conducted in the state various contests, the college having conducted stock judging work in forty-two counties. When the farm bureau was established as the recognized organization through which the extension service should function, that organization took the direct responsibility for club work in the county. During 1921 this club work was developed as a part of the extension program of work in eighty counties, eleven of which had county club leaders on full time, as in Auglaize county. A club consists of five or more boys and girls working on the same demonstration. In order to be recognized as a club and receive a charter the local club must have in addition a constitution and by-laws, a local leader in charge for the entire year and a definite program of work.

There is a wide field from which the youngsters may select the demonstration suited to their liking and it is apparent that the degree of club work that can be done in a county is limited only by the essentials of supervision and organization, the opportunity here for useful service thus being practically unlimited. As has been pointed out, the meetings of

these boys and girls to carry on their demonstrations, taking an active part in their respective club groups, have developed them mentally, morally and physically. Their demonstrations are observed by friends and neighbors and the better practices which the boys and girls are trained to follow have been taken up by other youngsters as well as by their elders. Communities have been drawn together and have seen the possibilities of working together for a larger and better community life, petty neighborhood jealousies thus disappearing in the big program of the communities. Boys and girls have found themselves. Many have realized for the first time that they have a place in the life of the community and have been fired with a new determination. They have been trained in the most improved practices of the farm and home, are learning the value of co-operation and are developing into leaders in farm bureau work and other community activities.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

For nearly sixty years Auglaize county has taken just pride in the character of the agricultural exhibits annually held at the county seat town and the big Auglaize county fair held in the fall of each year at Wapakoneta attracts attention throughout a wide territory hereabout as well as over in eastern Indiana. For years the Auglaize county fair has taken high place among similar forms of local exhibitions in Ohio and now is recognized as ranking third in the state in the matter of attendance and the value of premiums offered and contended for. The fair grounds at the western edge of the city of Wapakoneta are admirably planned and equipped, substantial buildings and a speedy race track causing it to be recognized as one of the best in the state. The fifty-ninth annual exhibition was held on August 29, 30 and 31 and September 1, 1922, and the program, as usual, was crowded with interesting events.

The history of the days of the beginning of the county fair in this county is somewhat obscured by loss of early records

and the mingling of tradition with the circumstances attending the promotion of the movement which led to the formal organization and incorporation of the Auglaize County Agricultural Society and the broken and fragmentary character of the files of the newspapers during the '60s, when the organization was effected, stands in the way of definite information along that line, but it is known that the first recognized county fair was held in a large barn on the James Elliott farm on West Auglaize street in Wapakoneta in 1863. This barn stood on the present site of the V. B. Arnold residence, formerly the home of Senator M. D. Shaw. A number of the leading merchants and men of affairs of Wapakoneta, combining with representative farmers throughout the county, planned and arranged the first exhibit of the agricultural and industrial products of the county. The editor of this work, though a small boy at that time, well remembers how the men worked to clean up the barn by shoveling and sweeping the floors and dusting off the beams so that the women might display their quilts and the like to advantage. There was a fair display—for the times—of the cereals, vegetables and fruit. The live stock exhibit was held in the barnyard, the animals thus displayed being housed in an annex to the barn.

At this, the first county fair held in Auglaize county, the writer can recall seeing but two carriages at the fair. These were owned by two well-to-do and progressive farmers, Hugh T. Rinehart, of Union township, and John Shannahan, of Pusheta township. The remainder of the spectators came to the fair in farm wagons, on horseback or afoot, and such was the condition of the roads at that time that they were compelled to start from their homes pretty early in the morning and leave the fair early in the afternoon in order to see much of the fair and reach home before night time. And yet the people of those days were apparently as happy and contented—if not more so—as are the people of today.

The second county fair was held in the Dr. George W. Holbrook barn at what then was the south end of Court street at Wapakoneta. This second county exhibit of agricultural

products was more successful in every way than the first. There was a larger and better exhibit in every department and the attendance was much greater. Like as in preparation for the first county exhibit in the Elliott barn, so the men worked very industriously in sweeping and cleaning the barn on the Holbrook farm for the second county fair. Great care was taken in removing the accumulated dirt and dust from the beams in the barn so that the ladies could make their display of quilts and needle work and other samples of domestic art.

From those early exhibits grew the present compact and successful county fair organization. The first mention of the fair found in the broken newspaper files is a four-column advertisement in the Wapakoneta *Democrat* of August 23, 1866, announcing the "Third Annual Fair of the Auglaize County Agricultural Society, to be held at their fair grounds, Wapakoneta, Ohio, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 3d, 4th and 5th, 1866." And then follow the names of the officers of the society, committees, managers, the order of exhibition, rules and regulations and an extensive premium list, together with the program of the racing events. Racing was made a special feature of the program of the third day's events. The officers of the Auglaize County Fair Society there set out were as follows: President, H. T. Rinehart; vice president, B. A. Wendeln; treasurer, O. T. Dieker, and secretary, C. P. Davis. Managers: W. P. Huett, G. W. Andrews, T. L. P. Defrees, J. J. Jacobs, William Finke, L. Sammetinger, L. D. Burton and T. J. Tabler. Executive committee, or committee on arrangements: On grounds, G. W. Andrews, L. D. Burton and C. P. Davis; on horses, mules and jacks, W. P. Huett, L. Sammetinger and J. L. Jacobs; on cattle, hogs and sheep, T. J. Tabler, L. D. Burton and B. A. Wendeln; on farm improvements, mechanics' work and articles for hall, William Finke, T. L. P. Defrees and G. W. Andrews.

The present (1922) officers and directors of the Auglaize County Agricultural Society are: President, L. D. Koch;

vice president, Jacob Sheipline; treasurer, E. W. Laut, and secretary, Adam E. Schaffer. Each of the townships of the county is represented on the directorate of the society, as follows: Clay township, Ferd Bailey; Duchouquet, J. Sheipline; German, Emil Laut; Goshen, C. W. Feikert; St. Marys, Amos Dowty; Jackson, E. Westerheide; Washington, J. H. Fresche; Moulton, Owen Cogan; Noble, J. J. Rusler; Pusheta, L. D. Koch; Salem, A. J. Gearhart; Union, S. H. Manning; Logan, John Fox, and Wayne, John Moyer. Mr. Schaffer, manager of the Wapakoneta *Daily News*, former county auditor and present postmaster of Wapakoneta, has held the important position of secretary of the agricultural society for more than twenty-five years and in this practical executive capacity has done much to advance the interests of the annual fair. It has been written of him, in this connection, that "it is conceded by everyone familiar with the facts that Adam Schaffer is without question the best fair secretary in Ohio."

Years ago there were two other annual exhibits of agricultural and industrial products made in this county. That was in the days before means of inter-neighborhood communication had been made easy through good roads and effective transportation methods and exhibits were more local than general in character. For years there was held each fall at New Bremen a tri-county fair, the farmers of the adjacent territory in Auglaize, Shelby and Mercer counties joining in a neighborhood exhibit. There also formerly and for some years was held at Waynesfield a similar neighborhood exhibition of agricultural products, which served as an outlet for displays on the part of the farmers in the northeastern section of this county and in the adjacent stretches of Allen, Hardin and Logan counties.

CHAPTER VII.

NEWSPAPERS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

Auglaize county is fortunate in its newspapers. With two daily newspapers at Wapakoneta, the county seat, a daily newspaper at St. Marys and excellent weekly newspapers at New Bremen, Minster and Waynesfield, all sections of the county are thus well represented by the press, which is ever awake to the best interests of the county and constantly alert in presenting the best side of those interests to the world at large. The influence of the press of this county has generally been wholesome and good and the extent of that influence never can be measured—from the days of the beginning it has been a continuing force operating generally consistently in behalf of better things for the community, and that force no one can estimate.

The first newspaper established in what is now Auglaize county was at St. Marys, during the period when that town was the civic center of Mercer county. Wapakoneta had no newspaper until the year following the establishment of the county seat of the new county of Auglaize there in 1848, when the Andrews brothers, who had been engaged in newspaper work in the neighboring town of Lima, came down and started a paper in the new county seat town, a paper which has had a continuous existence ever since, a period of nearly seventy-five years. In those days newspapers were that in name only. There was in their columns very little news, as the word news is understood today. They were chiefly mediums for the personal expression of the editor's views, principally on political topics, and their chief source of revenue was the publication of the essential "public printing" of the period. The value of commercial advertising was not then so well understood as now and it is apparent that what was

given the editor was contributed more as "charity" than with any thought of substantial return.

Happily, there is an excellently preserved file of the first paper published at Wapakoneta, *The Auglaize Republican*, established at Wapakoneta on Tuesday, July 24, 1849, the summer following the erection of Auglaize county. The *Republican* started as a six-column (wide measure), four-page paper, terms: "Two dollars, advance; two-fifty within six months," and had for its motto the simple word, "Truth." The rates for advertising were announced on a basis of \$1 a "square" (twelve lines), three insertions, or one column, six months, \$20; one year, \$30. William P. Andrews, the founder, editor and publisher, announced in his "Introductory" that "as a political paper the *Republican* will firmly, and with what ability the editor possesses, advocate the principles of the Democratic party. * * * We shall at all times be the unflinching advocate of correct morals, and each number of the *Republican* will contain one or more articles to this end." Apparently to reconcile the name *Republican* to the political policies the paper proposed to maintain, Mr. Andrews announced his belief "that the Democratic party of the present day is identical with the Republican party of Jefferson's administration."

EDITOR'S HOPEFUL OUTLOOK ON FUTURE.

In a leading article on "Wapakoneta—Its Facilities, Prospects, Etc.," the editor, in the initial issue of his paper, said that "every town obtains its character from the description of country about it. It is true, there are instances of towns growing up mushroom-like, upon some public work, that today show much excitement, tomorrow are divested of all that gives them importance. But a town built up in the midst of a fertile and well-settled country, with lands well adapted to the culture of almost all agricultural products, cannot materially vary in its importance. Wapakoneta is thus situated. There are facilities, too, such as few towns in northwestern Ohio possess, such as water power, building

materials, etc. Its location does not vary a mile from the exact geographical center of the county. As a county seat, then, the choice was well made, leaving no reason for any portion of the people of the county to complain on account of the distance to be traveled in transacting business at the seat of justice. Many enterprising men are permanently located in the place and give such a tone to its interests that those who are looking for locations cannot be mistaken as to the course the public interest will hereafter take. There is perhaps no town in northwestern Ohio where more improvement is in progress the present season than in Wapakoneta; the improvements, too, are of such a character as to permanently benefit the public interest. There can be little doubt that at no distant day our place will vie in importance with the first in this part of the state."

The first issue of the paper exhibits marks of the capable direction of an experienced typographer and its "make-up" is excellent. As was common with the newspapers of that period, local news was a subsidiary consideration, the only local items noted being one relating to the prevalence of cholera in the Bremen (New Bremen) and Minster neighborhoods, an item relating to the performance of a company of stage troupers in Wapakoneta "last evening," with a drastic criticism of the performance, an item copied from the St. Marys paper relating to the death by the roadside of a stranger, from what was supposed to have been cholera, at a point about six miles north of that point and criticising severely the persons who discovered the man's plight and left him to die unattended, and a "Religious Notice" announcing that "Rev. Wm. Williamson will preach at the Methodist church on Sunday evening next, at early candle-lighting." Otherwise the reading matter was confined to political articles, "miscellany" credited to other newspapers, an apparently original article headed "Cogitations of Love" and a bit of poetry, this latter including Whittier's "The Maiden's Prayer."

The local advertising was confined to the professional and business announcements of George W. Andrews and John Walkup, attorneys; Holbrook & Nichols, physicians and surgeons; Dr. S. Bump, M. D.; J. A. McFarland, M. D.; J. B. Craig, surveyor and conveyancer; C. G. Galezio, fashionable tailor; Horatio J. Hamilton, blacksmithing; the National House, St. Marys, F. Dieker, prop., and J. Ayers & Sons, "a general assortment of dry goods, groceries, queensware, hardware, drugs, medicines, etc.," who also "wanted—at headquarters—10,000 bushels of ashes and twenty head one, two and three years old colts." George W. Holbrook was advertising "land and town lots for sale," his announcement closing with the declaration that "it is almost unnecessary to mention that the town property is offered at great bargains, and that it is situated in the Seat of Justice of Auglaize county, where upwards of thirty new structures are being erected this season." There were a few legal notices and three ordinances of the town of Wapakoneta, one regulating shows, another "for punishing offenders," and another defining the duties of the town marshal, these being signed by George W. Andrews, mayor, and attested by John Walkup, recorder. Three lines are given over to the announcement that "country produce is wanted on subscription to *The Auglaize Republican*." The other advertising columns were taken up with advertisements of magazine and book publishers, some of these frankly stating that they were being published on an "exchange" basis. The last "card" in the paper announced "job printing of every description neatly, cheaply and expeditiously executed at the *Republican* office." The Dayton markets, "corrected every week," were as follows: Flour, bbl., \$3.50; wheat, bu., 65 cents; corn, 26; rye, 55; oats, 20; potatoes, 50; barley, 45; flax seed, 83; cloverseed, \$3.50; timothy, \$3, and whisky, 15 cents a gallon.

A WORD REGARDING COLONEL ANDREWS.

One month later, August 14, William P. Andrews announced the sale of his paper to Robert J. S. Hollis, "late one of the publishers of the *St. Marys Sentinel and Democrat*," who carried on the publication of the *Republican* alone until in the summer of 1850, when the name of George W. Andrews, brother of William P. Andrews, founder of the *Republican*, appears associated with him as the editor of the paper. Not long afterward the names of Robert B. Wright and Henry B. Kelly appear as publishers, they being in charge when the paper turned into its third year in the summer of 1851. In the fall of 1855 H. B. Kelly assumed sole control and was in charge when the bound file, closing July 21, 1856, with Vol. III, No. 1, concludes, the announcement being made in this last issue of the old *Republican* on file that the publication day of the paper, "on account of changes in the arrival of the mails (this being in the days of the old stage lines), as well as other reasons touching our own convenience," had been changed to Monday. This was about the time of the organization of the Republican party and as the name of the paper then would be a misnomer, the name of the *Republican* was changed to that of the *Democrat*, which it ever since has borne.

Before passing from a consideration of this period of the *Democrat's* history, a word in passing concerning Col. George W. Andrews, who was for so many years a vitalizing force in directing the policies of that paper, will be proper. Following the death of Colonel Andrews in the fall of 1887, the *Auglaize Republican* (W. J. McMurray then editor) carried a warmly sympathetic editorial appreciation of the life and services of the deceased editor, rival on many a hard-fought political field, saying, in part: "Colonel Andrews was generally recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability. He was versatile in his talents and commanded attention whether advocating the cause of a client in a legal forum, the cause of his party in the editorial columns of a newspaper, or

the cause of his country in the legislative hall or tented field.
* * * Colonel Andrews had a broader culture than the mere lawyer and his legal labors were continually varied and were at times seriously interrupted by editorial and legislative work. From early manhood to the close of his career he displayed a fondness for editorial work and contributed many able articles to the leading Democratic newspapers of the state. When but twenty-one years of age he founded and edited the *Lima Argus* and two years later he started the *Auglaize Republican*, so that he can justly be called the father of journalism in this county."

George W. Andrews was born in Medina, N. Y., of Colonial and Revolutionary stock. He had his schooling at the "Nine Partners" College in Dutchess county, New York, and at Oberlin (Ohio) College and at the age of eighteen years began the study of law at Granville, Ohio. In 1845 he was admitted to the bar at Norwalk and immediately thereafter became engaged in practice at Lima, where he was elected prosecuting attorney for Allen county. During the three years of his residence there he established the *Lima Argus* and in 1848, upon the erection of Auglaize county, moved to Wapakoneta and began there the practice of law, to which profession he remained devoted to the end, though giving much of his time to his newspaper and editorial interests. In 1856-58-60 he represented this district in the Legislature and in 1861 raised a company of volunteers in this county and was made captain of the same, being advanced in rank as the war progressed until his final discharge as a brevet brigadier-general. Upon the completion of his military service Colonel Andrews resumed his practice at Wapakoneta and there spent the remainder of his life. During the years 1873-75 he represented this joint senatorial district in the Ohio state Senate. He was sixty-two years of age at the time of his death.

“THE PORCUPINE” OF THE '40s.

Though the name of William P. Andrews appears at the “masthead” of the first newspaper established at Wapakoneta as proprietor of the same and he has thus been treated as the founder of that paper, it is apparent that it was his elder brother, George W. Andrews, who was the real founder of the paper. The Sutton review (1880), in this connection, has it that “George W. Andrews sent for his younger brother, William P. Andrews, to come from their native place in New York to establish a paper at this place (Wapakoneta). The elder brother furnished the means and the young man established a Democratic paper under the title of *The Auglaize Republican*.” Professor Williamson’s review in connection with Colonel Andrews has it that “within the three years of his residence at Lima he established and edited the *Lima Argus*. In 1848 he moved to Wapakoneta and established *The Auglaize Republican*.” As a matter of fact, as above set out, the *Republican* was not established until July 24, 1849. The name of William P. Andrews shortly afterward ceased to appear in connection with the paper and no further reference is found concerning him.

That George W. Andrews had been connected with newspaper work at Lima more than three years prior to his location at Wapakoneta upon the establishment of the county seat at the latter place in 1848 is attested by a rare old copy of *The Porcupine*, which was established at Lima early in 1843 now in the possession of W. J. McMurray, of Wapakoneta. This copy of *The Porcupine* was addressed to James Elliott, a local subscriber at Wapakoneta, and is dated October 28, 1843, No. 36 of Vol. I. The paper’s masthead announces that it is “edited and published by George W. Andrews.” Terms of subscription, \$1 a year in advance, \$1.50 “if paid within six months, and \$2 if not paid till the expiration of the year.” It further is announced that “legal advertisements will be charged per square; for first three weeks, \$1.50, and per square for each continuance, 38. Where directions are not given

to the contrary advertisements will be continued until forbidden, and charged accordingly. No paper will be discontinued until arrearages are paid, except at the discretion of the publisher. Communications must be postpaid in order to receive attention." That was in the days when it cost 25 cents to post a letter and the publisher apparently was going to take no chances on "postage due" worthless communications. *The Porcupine* carried an announcement to the effect that "country produce of all kinds taken on subscription."

The first and the last page of this interesting little old four-page, five-column newspaper of the '40s were taken up with "fat" legal publications of the forfeited land list and delinquent tax for that year, the same signed by John W. Thomas, auditor of Allen county, who points out that "the owners of the above mentioned lands are not, perhaps all aware that the said lands are not only delinquent but forfeited and upon sale. The buyer can demand a deed therefor. It will then undoubtedly be for the interest of all concerned to settle before said sale." Among the townships in which lands were then listed as of Allen county were the townships of Wayne, Union, Duchouquet, Moulton, Washington, Pusheta and Clay, which became parts of Auglaize county upon the latter's erection five years later. Wherever the name of the village of Wapakoneta appears in this old paper it is spelled "Wapaukonnetta." Among other legal publications in the paper was one to the effect that "notice is hereby given that a petition will be presented to the commissioners of Allen county, at their next annual session, for a continuation of the county road from Wapaukonnetta to the farm of Thomas Williams in Moulton township, thence west to the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of section 18 in said township; thence through the lance (sic) of Christ Baily to the farm of Aaron Cox on the line between Allen and Mercer counties."

At the head of the editorial column of *The Porcupine* was carried the following: "For President, Martin VanBuren, or the nominee of a Democratic convention, regardless of the time when, or the place where, it is held, or the mode of its

organization.” The editor evidently took his politics “straight.” The paper carried about three columns of editorial matter, concluding with the promise that “if our readers will bear with us for the delay of our paper (which was caused by sickness) and the barrenness of its columns, we promise that as soon as the delinquent lands can be left out, to endeavor to make it more interesting.” There were no local news items in the paper, politics and miscellany filling such of the columns as did not carry advertising. Legal advertising was the chief source of revenue for the papers of those days, though there was some commercial advertising, one bit of which was that of the Lima hat factory, H. N. McGuire, which announced that “I am prepared to furnish hats of every variety and at reduced prices, to suit the hard times. My prices will vary from \$2 to \$8—so that the most fastidious can not fail to be suited. I will take in exchange rags, lard, tallow, beeswax and most kinds of country produce. Furs of all kinds, and lambs wool particularly wanted.” Reliable money was mighty scarce in those days and barter was still the chief medium of exchange.

Illustrative of the dubious character of the banking facilities of that period of almost universal “wild catting,” *The Porcupine* carried a list nearly a column in length of the banks whose currency might be found floating around in this section, under the head of “Specie Standard—Corrected from the *Weekly Cincinnati Enquirer*.” In this no fewer than forty-three Ohio banks were listed. Of these the issue of but four (at Cincinnati) were quoted at par, the discount on others ranging from 1 to 90, while banks at Wooster, Miamisburg, Gallipolis, Steubenville and West Union were quoted as “broken.” The discount on the issue of six Indiana banks quoted ranged from 1 to 75. New York City banks quoted at par and country banks in that state at 1 discount. Philadelphia city banks were quoted at par and Pennsylvania country banks, generally, at a discount of from 2 to 5. Michigan banks were discounted at from 3 to 10, New England banks at a discount of 1, Kentucky banks the same, Illinois banks at

a discount of from 48 to 95, Virginia 1, Southern banks generally at a discount of from 2 to 90, and so on down the line. New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore exchange was quoted at a premium of 1. A man had to watch the newspapers and carry a "banknote detector" in those days to know what if anything his money was worth and to check against the flood of counterfeit continually in circulation.

Among the other commercial advertisers in this paper was King's Old Cash Store, Lima, which announced "twenty tons of fall goods just received." This was a general stock and offerings were made "at less than Lake prices." Included in these prices were sheetings at from 6 to 8 cents, fine blue, black and other colored broadcloths at \$1.50 the yard (this being in the days when gentlemen affected colors in their broadclothings), ticking and drilling at 12 1/2 cents, good sole leather at 18 3/4 cents, coffee ("best article that grows") at 12 1/2, and so on through the list, including "indigo, madder, allum, drugs and medicines, etc., etc.," in short, everything needed in the country is found here," the announcement concluding with the statement that "canal scrip, bonds, wheat, oats, corn, ginseng, beeswax, butter, clover and timothy seed, taken at the highest cash price in exchange for goods."

There were several "Wapakonnetta" advertisers, including Dieker & Herzing, who announced that they had taken the tanyard formerly occupied by James Elliott and that hides and skins were wanted in exchange for leather, "or paid for half in cash and half in groceries or other goods." George W. Andrews, the publisher and editor of *The Porcupine*, carried a "card" in the paper announcing himself as an "attorney at law and solicitor in chancery; office in the court house in the auditor's room." The somewhat striking name of this paper afterward was changed to that of the *Argus*, which would account for the earlier reference to Mr. Andrews as editor of the latter paper. Upon leaving Lima for Wapakoneta, Mr. Andrews sold the *Argus* to Mathias H. Nichols. The first newspaper published at

Lima was a small weekly called the *Herald*, which was published by Hollister & Bennett, who did not remain long, leaving the field in the late '30s for lack of support. In 1841 Thomas Smith started a paper which he presently sold to Gillett & Guthrie, who carried on with the paper, which they called *The Porcupine*, for two years or until they sold it to Mr. Andrews in 1843. Abelard Guthrie, who gave the name of *The Porcupine* to the paper, has been referred to as "an able but very eccentric man who had many idiosyncracies."

VIEW OF CONDITIONS IN THE '70s.

It was under the direction of H. B. Kelly, afterward mayor of the city and for many years one of the forceful figures in the civic and social life of Wapakoneta, that the name of the *Republican* was changed to the *Auglaize County Democrat* in 1856 and Kelly continued publication of the paper until August 13, 1874, when he announced its sale to Col. George W. Andrews, its former publisher, then state senator, and Robert McMurray, also an attorney, the latter of whom is introduced as "an intelligent, energetic young man." In his valedictory, Mr. Kelly reviewed something of the changes that had taken place in the community since the time of his purchase of the paper twenty-three years before, he then having been but a few days past his majority. Then, said he, "the county of Auglaize contained only 12,000 people—now it numbers 25,000. Wapakoneta, St. Marys, Bremen and Minster were little towns just springing into existence—now they are young cities! Nor has there been less change over the balance of the county. Where log cabins were then the abode of our farmers now stand stately dwellings of brick and frame. Where forests then stood, broad meadows, pastures, grain fields and orchards meet the eye. Then most all of our farmers possessed only moderate means—now large numbers of them have incomes from money at interest. Then, many of our friends had to be reached by mere paths through the primal forest—now, the best of roads extend through every section of the land in the county;

but why need we speak of these, further than to say that we came to Auglaize county when it was a comparatively new country—now, it is among the wealthiest of northern Ohio.” That was written nearly a half century ago. Could Mr. Kelly revisit these scenes in spirit, what amazing changes would he note!

At the time of Mr. Kelly’s retirement from the local newspaper field he was serving as mayor of Wapakoneta, a position he had occupied for some time. He presently became engaged in newspaper work at Lima and later moved to Cincinnati, where his last days were spent. The columns of the *Democrat* at that time carried the “cards” of D. J. Van-Anda, George W. Andrews, S. R. Mott, Sr., R. D. Marshall, L. N. Blume, M. Dumbroff, W. V. M. Layton, F. C. Layton, John Walkup, F. C. VanAnda, C. T. Cook, L. C. Sawyer, John S. Williams, C. A. Layton, J. C. VanAnda and R. L. Walters, attorneys at law; S. P. Brundige, Sharp & Son, C. W. Hemisfar, J. H. Nichols, and F. C. Hunter, physicians; J. S. Alspaugh and Samuel Craig, surveyors; W. J. Downard, dentist, and the following commercial and general advertisers: J. H. Doering & Co., hardware; Joseph M. Foltz, photographer; Abram Hale, auctioneer; Lemuel Trizzell, auctioneer; J. H. Nagle, harness; Farmers Bank, Sam Bitler, cashier; J. J. Moser & Son, jewelry; the Burnett House, the Henry House, the Murphy House and the Dieker House, hotels; Benjamin Linzee, real estate; E. Gunther, groceries and restaurant; N. E. Haywood, painter; James H. Skinner, banker; A. Franke, drugs; James Davis, proprietor of the Wapakoneta woolen mills; G. W. Holbrook, nursery; D. H. Hersh, tobacconist; W. S. Haywood, lumber; Henry Schmidt, boots and shoes; Henry Keuthan, dry goods; Henry Frech, hardware; John Naughton, saloon, restaurant and grocery; J. C. Kimmel, tailor and men’s clothing; William Heinrich, insurance; Miller & Nagle, furniture, successors to Smith & Yokel; L. R. Slessor & Co., clothing, successors to L. Victor; J. H. Timmermeister, “goods—everything you want;” Wapakoneta Spoke and Wheel Company,

R. D. Marshall, president—"500,000 hickory and whiteoak butts wanted;" New Knoxville tile factory, Kuck & Meckstroth, proprietors; F. Fritsch, drugs; C. L. Carpenter, drugs; O. T. Dieker, dry goods; A. B. Nungester, stoves and tinware; Ditmar Fisher, groceries; Christ. Heisler, tile factory; Reichelderfer & Krebs, lumber, and Huebner & Kiefer, building stone.

The Wapakoneta market quotations carried in this issue of the *Democrat* reveal that wheat was selling here for \$1; corn, 50 cents; oats, 30; barley, \$1; rye, 75 cents; cloverseed, \$5.25. Flour was quoted at \$6 a barrel; coffee, 27 to 35 cents; sugar, 10 to 15; New Orleans molasses, \$1 a gallon; vinegar, 30 cents; rice, 10 to 12; potatoes, 60 to 75; apples, 20 to 30; wood (cord), \$2.50; beef roasts were selling at 10 to 12 1/2; steak 12 1/2 to 15; veal, 10 to 15; mutton, 8 to 10; pork, 10 to 12 1/2; lard, 10. In a separate note "To Our Brethren of the Press" Mr. Kelly further reviewed his long period of connection with the Ohio newspaper field and closed with the hint that "it is more than likely that not many moons will pass before we will again be ready to greet our editorial brethren from some other point."

FURTHER HISTORY OF "THE DEMOCRAT".

Newspapers were changing their methods about this time, giving more attention to the real news events of the community and the new proprietors (Andrews & McMurray) fell into this spirit, with the result that the succeeding files of the *Democrat* show many improvements, both in style and typography. On September 9, 1875, Colonel Andrews announced the sale of his interest in the paper to C. P. Davis, a newspaper man of fourteen years experience, and the paper was continued under the joint ownership of Davis & McMurray until the death of Mr. McMurray (of whom more anon) in March of the following year (1876), after which Mr. Davis continued publishing the paper alone until his death in June, 1881. Charles P. Davis was a native of Ohio,

born at Dayton in 1833, and in that city passed his apprenticeship in a newspaper office, finishing his trade at Cincinnati. He located at St. Marys, in this county, where he was engaged in the restaurant business when the rush to the gold fields of California set in. He joined the fortune hunters and went to California, where he presently established a Democratic paper in Mariposa county. In 1858 he returned to Ohio and for a time was engaged in newspaper work at Dayton. In 1860 he moved to Wapakoneta and became engaged in the hardware business. In 1869 he was elected clerk of courts of Auglaize county and it was while serving in that capacity that he resumed newspaper work, as set out above, and continued thus engaged until his death, he then being forty-eight years of age.

Within a few weeks after the death of Mr. Davis the *Democrat* was sold by his widow to a local company headed by T. B. Baker, then county clerk, and continued, under the editorial direction of Col. George W. Andrews, Charles Reid and M. D. Shaw, until on March 9, 1882, when the paper was taken over by Fred B. Kampf, who announced in his salutatory that "we are here to stay." Kampf did stay with the paper for more than twelve years, or until May 31, 1894, when he announced the sale of the *Democrat* to E. S. Nichols. His valedictory announced that he was retiring upon the advice of his physicians, his physical condition becoming serious. He with his family removed to Colorado Springs, Col., where after a short residence he passed away. Mr. Nichols presently shifted the burden of control of the *Democrat* to a local stock company, which carried on the publication of the paper under the name of the Democrat Publishing Company. Not long afterward Adam E. Schaffer, present postmaster at Wapakoneta and former county auditor, gained control of this company and reincorporated it as the Democrat Printing Company, of which company he since has been general manager. On July 3, 1905, Mr. Schaffer converted his paper into a daily, the *Wapakoneta Daily News*, which found an immediate and profitable field.

The old *Democrat* continues to be publishing as a weekly edition of the *News*. Mr. Nichols was succeeded as editor of the paper by D. A. Clark, formerly of the *St. Mary's Argus*, who was succeeded by William G. Hoffer, who is now publishing a paper at Willshire in the neighboring county of VanWert, and he in turn by John Fisher, now of the *Lima Daily News*, who in 1919 was succeeded by the present managing editor, Dwight L. Matchette, a newspaper man of wide experience, who received his initial training in his old home town, Greenville. Rue P. Melching, an alumnus of Wittenberg College, who was born and reared in Wapakoneta, is the city editor and assistant manager of the paper.

The Democratic Times was started at Wapakoneta on August 17, 1888, by William M. Linn in an office on the second floor of Kreitzer's "new block" on Auglaize street. This was a six-column, eight-page paper, half "ready-print," and the publisher's salutatory announced that it would be "a straight Democratic paper." Apparently it soon was found that one Democratic paper was sufficient at the county seat and the *Times* did not long maintain the struggle to keep going against the competition of the old established paper. Linn was a Logansport (Ind.) printer and had associated with him in his enterprise at Wapakoneta two other Logansport craftsmen, Harry T. Wolf and C. E. Radebaugh. Linn went from here to Columbus, Ohio, where he became well established in the printing business.

BEGINNING OF THE REPUBLICAN PRESS.

The Auglaize Republican.—It is apparent from the fragmentary files of the newspapers of this county preserved in the office of the county auditor that there was little encouragement offered for the establishment of a Republican newspaper at Wapakoneta until after the close of the Civil war, even as in the older days there had been no organ of the Whig party here, and the record is not clear as to just when the first paper to espouse the cause of Republicanism was

established. The earliest file of any of the Republican papers thus preserved is that of Vols. III-V of *The Wapakoneta Union*, the serial numbers of which indicate that the paper was established in the fall of 1865, following the conclusion of the Civil war. Though the initial number of this paper is not available and the editor's announcement of his purpose is thus lost to this compilation, a sidelight on the same is contained in the files of the *Democrat* of that period. In its issue of September 14, 1865, under a heading "The Wapakoneta Union," this latter paper comments thus on the appearance of the new paper: "The first number of the new Republican paper was laid on our table yesterday. It is a sheet of the size of our own (seven-column folio), exhibiting neatness and considerable mechanical taste. The editor appears in a lengthy salutatory, the material part of which is in the following extract: 'The chief end for which we shall battle will be the uprooting of the foul and loathsome party prejudice that has spontaneously sprung up, through party stupidity and blindness, in this county, and the establishment of principles of a true and loyal character that will bloom and flourish in the pure sunshine of freedom, when the filthy and stagnant channels of the so-called Democracy will be covered up in eternal oblivion.' We forbear comment on this chaste and modest announcement. Vive le missionary of Auglaize county!"

The name of Otho J. Powell is carried at the *Union's* "masthead" as editor and proprietor and the paper carried the Republican ticket at the head of its editorial column in the issues opening Vol. V. (its closing volume) in October, 1869, Rutherford B. Hayes then having been the candidate of the Republican party for Governor of Ohio. The *Union* was a well printed and apparently well patronized eight-column folio. The file of this paper closes with the issue of June 8, 1870, Mr. Powell, in his valedictory, announcing that he had sold the paper and publishing plant to Ed B. Walk-up, formerly of the Winchester (Ind.) *Journal*, "who will in a few weeks issue a new paper from this office." It seems,

however, that Walkup already had been publishing a paper at Wapakoneta, for there is on file a series of the issues of the *Wapakoneta Courant*, E. B. Walkup publisher, the first of this series that has thus been preserved being No. 26 of Vol. I, dated January 12, 1870, which would indicate a probable merger of the *Union* and the *Courant*. The latter paper seems to have been a merger with or a continuation under a new name of an older paper, for it gives its "whole number" as 271 (new series 26).

In closing his connection with the *Union*, Mr. Powell announces that he will engage in the sale of sewing machines. He evidently could not withstand the lure of the printshop, however, for the files reveal Mr. Powell as editor and proprietor of the *Auglaize County Republican*, published at Wapakoneta, No. 1, Vol. I of this paper being dated September 20, 1872, a six-column, four-page paper, in which Mr. Powell announces that "after a lapse of two years we again assume the responsibilities of editing and publishing a Republican newspaper in this county." This file closes on December 22, 1875, Mr. Powell on that date printing another valedictory in which he announces his intention to go to Chicago Junction, "a new town on the B. & O. railroad in Huron county, Ohio, where we hope to have better support." He pointed out that "we have stood by the party ever since the first number of our paper was issued but the party has not stood by us."

The file of the *Courant* closes on August 8, 1872, Mr. Walkup announcing his decision to discontinue the paper and move the plant to St. Marys and publish a paper to be known as the *St. Marys Courant*, this decision, according to his valedictory, being based on "several reasons, principal among which is the fact that the people of St. Marys have offered us better support financially than we have been receiving here." He closes with the parting suggestion that "if the Republicans want a good paper they must support it to the best of their ability." Walkup left the newspaper field at St. Marys in the fall of 1874, J. E. Fisher taking over

cal College of Ohio, 1907—in 1907; Augustus Lee Faler, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1905; Henry Joseph Gadenkauf, Ohio Medical University, 1907; Albert Andrew Dougherty, Starling Medical College, 1896—in 1908; Henry Louis Meckstroth, Jefferson Medical College, 1908; Oliver Hubbard Gibbs, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1891; Robert W. Sharp, same, 1873; Irwin Henry Boesel, Homeopathic Medical College of the University of Michigan, 1909; George E. Brattain, Medical College of Ft. Wayne, 1882—in 1909; Andrew Robinson, Queens University, Kingston, Conn., 1895; Nettie B. Streight, College of Osteopathy, Des Moines, Iowa, 1905—in 1910; Chester L. Shimer, New York Homeopathic Medical College, 1883; Nathan Vernon Noble, Starling Medical College, 1911—in 1911; John Alvin Bolton (1912), Medical College of Western Reserve University, 1910; William Henry Tippie, Starling Medical College, 1895; William August Deerhake, School of Medicine, Indiana University, 1908; William A. Gaylord, Still College of Osteopathy, Des Moines, 1901—in 1913; Edmund Grothaus (1914), American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo., 1914; William Anson Forrester (1915), Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, 1888; William E. Bloyer, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1879; O. L. Mapes, no college given; Clarence Frederick Rulman, Medical College of the University of Ohio, 1915; Aldo Vernon Sibert, same, 1915—in 1915; George Leslie Lyne (1916), Dartmouth Medical College, 1895; Charles Edwin Meckstroth (1920), Starling Medical College, 1914; John J. Hanmore, Kentucky School of Medicine, 1884; George Benjamin Faulder, Medical Department of the University of Michigan, 1914, and Fred Blaukner, Marion-Sims College of Medicine, St. Louis, 1916—in 1921.

Some of the names above set out perhaps may not be recognized in the community, no doubt some of the physicians thus registering having been traveling or transient practitioners temporarily in the county and who registered as a mere legal formality. The great majority, however, are the names of men who have become important factors in the

community and this roster therefore will have value in the years to come.

THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In 1904, largely through the energetic efforts of Dr. Carl L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta, the Auglaize County Medical Society was organized. This society has been a continuing force for good hereabout since then and undoubtedly has been largely beneficial in its operations. Since the organization of this society the following names have been included in the necrology of the society, members who have died since then: C. H. Phelps and B. E. Thomas, of St. Marys; E. R. Freeman and E. M. Phelps, of Wapakoneta; M. S. Ekermeier, of New Bremen; R. W. Sharp, of Buckland; J. W. Hurlburt, of Uniopolis; J. W. Turner, of Santa Fe; G. N. Rulmann, of Minster, and J. M. Day, of Waynesfield.

The present (1922) members of this society are H. S. Noble, F. A. Shuffleton, I. E. Williams, G. E. Noble, C. P. McKee, J. E. Heap and V. N. Noble, all of St. Marys; C. C. Berlin, T. A. Campbell, H. B. Faulder, G. B. Faulder, E. F. Heffner, R. C. Hunter, C. L. Mueller, G. B. Nichols, W. S. Stuckey and G. L. Lyne, of Wapakoneta; H. E. Fledderjohann and C. E. Meckstroth, of New Knoxville; F. F. Fledderjohann and H. G. Rawers, of New Bremen; C. L. Dine, R. A. Rulmann and H. J. Gudenkauf, of Minster; S. H. Sibert, of Freyburg; J. E. Bayliff, of Uniopolis; J. H. Schaffer, of Criddersville; W. E. Bloyer and Doctor Burnett, of Buckland, and J. H. Heileman, of Waynesfield. There are two practicing physicians in the county who are not affiliated with the medical society, H. Henmore, of Waynesfield, and C. A. Strassburg, of Criddersville.

Dr. Carl L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta, for years the executive secretary and "mainspring" of the county medical society, sometimes drops into verse in making up the programs for the meetings of the society. In connection with the meeting held at Wapakoneta in December, 1906, the Doctor's con-

ESTABLISHMENT OF "THE REPUBLICAN."

It was this situation that opened the way for the establishment of the present *Republican*, now issued daily and weekly at Wapakoneta, the first issue of which appeared as *The Auglaize Republican* on August 18, 1881, under the direction of Robert Sutton and William J. McMurray, the latter of whom was a brother of Capt. Robert McMurray, whose connection with the *Democrat* has been mentioned above, but of a different political faith. The initial number of the *Republican* carried at its masthead the statement that it was "the only Republican paper in the county." The publishers announced in their salutatory that "in founding *The Auglaize Republican* we yield to a recognized demand for a paper published at Wapakoneta which will contribute to the interests of the community, present the local news, and uphold the banner of Republicanism by the propagation of sound political principals. * * * The question of material development in town and country is at the front and this paper will not ignore the immediate interests of the community, but will keep in view the encouragement of industries and the improvement of local industries," and much more of a character well designed to set out the paper's position on the several grounds proper to be covered by a newspaper at that time and place. The paper started as a nine-column, four-page sheet, admirable in its typography and apparently exhaustive in its presentation of the local news, while its editorial columns betokened a steady and experienced hand at the helm. But two pages (inside) were printed at home, eighteen columns thus being given over to local matter, the editors apparently wisely having decided to rely upon the judgment of the Cleveland branch of the old A. N. Kellogg "ready-print," or auxilliary publishing plant, to relieve them of the task of getting up the general matter and miscellany necessary to fill the remaining columns, a course in efficiency and economy that some of the present day newspaper publishers in the smaller towns are too largely neglecting. The

paper started with a complete new "dress" of type from the Cincinnati branch of the Franklin type foundry and the press work in evidence was all that the most critical could desire. The *Republican's* motto—James A. Garfield's "I would rather be beaten in doing right than loaded down with gains in doing wrong"—was carried as a subtitle on the first page.

The *Republican* was fortunate in entering the field just at the time of the general industrial, commercial and agricultural "awakening" in this county, about the time that Wapakoneta started in to rebuild itself, and when a new impetus was being given hereabout to all forms of endeavor, and as the new paper from the start consistently and intelligently advocated and encouraged these progressive movements, in accordance with its initial promise to "keep in view the encouragement of industries," it quickly found for itself a place in the community that had been denied its predecessors and it was not long until the people of the county discovered that at last a Republican paper really had "come to stay." Two years after the Sutton & McMurray partnership was formed Mr. McMurray bought his partner's interest in the *Republican* and assumed the publication of the paper alone, but presently sold a half interest in the publication to W. R. Duvall. This latter partnership continued for four or five years, at the end of which time Mr. Duvall disposed of his interest to his partner and went to Circleville, Ohio, where he became editor of the *Herald*. Mr. McMurray then continued the publication of the *Republican* alone until the spring of 1915, when he sold the paper to William B. Morey and Charles S. Whiteman and has since been devoting his time to his banking, manufacturing and other interests.

It was on May 6, 1915, that Mr. McMurray retired from the field he had occupied here for nearly thirty-five years, the *Republican* of that date carrying the announcement that "with this issue W. J. McMurray relinquishes the editorial and business management of *The Auglaize Republican* in favor of W. B. Morey, former postmaster, and Charles S. Whiteman, who has been foreman of the *Republican* office

W. Trumbull, Paul Abits and Adolphus Steinhoff; German township (which also then included what now is Jackson township), E. A. VonBeseler, J. P. Schmieder, William A. Haverman and B. H. Neiberg; St. Marys, —— Holderman, —— Goodrich, A. O. Connell and R. W. Stearnes, and in Union township, William Craig. There was much illness then, the greater part of this being due to that distressing scourge of fever and ague, "chills," which seemed to follow man in his work of opening the new country all through the middle West, and these doctors no doubt had their hands full. It also was about that time, apparently following the line of construction of the canal, that that terrible scourge of Asiatic cholera, of which the history of that period of settlement in Ohio and eastern Indiana is so full, visited this region, hundreds falling under the scourge—so much so as almost to halt settlement hereabout for a considerable period. It is narrated that in German township alone, following the operations there of the canal crew, that no fewer than 150 persons died of the dread disease, while at St. Marys there also was a shocking toll of death.

In one of the older chronicles of this region there is a little story relating to Dr. Washington G. Kishler, who for more than forty years was engaged in practice at St. Marys, that may be regarded as typical. Doctor Kishler served as a medical steward in the army during the time of the Mexican war and in the spring of 1848, about the time this county was organized, located at Wapakoneta, presently going thence to St. Marys, where for more than forty years he continued in practice. Of him it is narrated that "the Doctor soon became widely known and very popular, not only on account of his social qualities, but for his success in contending with the prevailing diseases, which were principally chills, bilious and intermittent fevers, etc. He visited his patients on horseback for many years, often riding long distances over rough roads or through forest paths, and many a time has seen deer and other wild animals not now found in this part of the country. During his long practice of forty-five years

he has had many varied experiences and has had to deal with many strange and difficult cases. The young doctor of to-day can have no idea of what the physicians of the past had to go through with in pioneer times."

REGISTERED PHYSICIANS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

In accordance with the legislative act of February 27, 1896, "to regulate the practice of medicine in the state of Ohio" and requiring the filing with the clerk of the probate court of the county of the certificate of the state board of medical registration and examination of the physicians's fitness to practice medicine in the state, the following physicians have registered in Auglaize county, the list being set out with the name of the college from which the registrant was graduated, together with the date of graduation: Cicero Berlin, Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, 1863; Colston L. Dine, same, 1886; Franklin C. Hunter, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1872; J. A. Kussman, Medical College of Ohio 1889; Stephen B. Lusk, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1888; John H. Nichols, Medical College of Ohio, 1872; Ernest B. Nichols, same, 1883; Nathan T. Noble, same, 1869; Rudolph A. Rulman, same, 1881; S. H. Sibert, Starling Medical College, 1881; Simpson M. Ekermeyer, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1881; William Seth Turner, same, 1884; Edgar McCormick, Medical College of Ohio, 1888; J. Homer Schaeffer, same, 1891; Edward Marshall Phelps, same, 1896; Charles H. Phelps, same, 1876; J. W. Hurlburt, Homeopathic College of Cleveland, 1877; E. R. Freeman, Pulte Medical College, Cincinnati, 1883; E. F. Everist, Medical College of Ohio, 1882; L. D. Bryan, Columbus Medical College, 1878; W. E. Schoonover, Pulte Medical College, 1885; J. E. Bayliff, same, 1887; Hirman Edgar Pintler, Hahneman Medical College, Chicago, 1895; Henry E. Fledderjohann, University of Pennsylvania, 1886; Peter Radebaugh, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1887; Peter Van Trump, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1874; Rufus I. Kebs, Pennsylvania Medical College, Philadelphia, 1853; Bert Eugene Thomas, Ohio Medical Uni-

NEWSPAPERS AT ST. MARYS.

Of course, the first newspaper published in what is now Auglaize county was that published at St. Marys during the time of that town's ascendancy as the seat of justice of Mercer county, but unhappily there is only the most fragmentary record of these early enterprises. By flood and fire and through the vicissitudes of time the early files of the St. Marys papers have been destroyed and thus much valuable material in the way of first hand information concerning the government of that section in the early days has been lost. But there were papers published there some time before the establishment of the old *Auglaize Republican* (present *Democrat*) at Wapakoneta in 1849 and these papers were being published during the period of the erection of the new county of Auglaize and the establishment of the county seat, the *Sentinel* apparently having had a sometime existence there as well as the *Democrat*, and that these two papers found it necessary for economic reasons to merge as one is also evident. It will be recalled that in the review of the old *Auglaize Republican*, set out above, it is stated that in August, 1849, George W. Andrews announced the sale of that paper at Wapakoneta to Robert J. S. Hollis, "late one of the publishers of the St. Marys *Sentinel and Democrat*."

Unfortunately, there is no record of the identity of Hollis's associates in the newspaper field at St. Marys nor of how long he had been there. The paper evidently tried to struggle along, however, after his departure until it probably became evident to the publishers that the county seat paper had the "inside track" and that further struggle was hopeless, there of course being no room for two papers in the county at that time; for in the files of the old *Republican* (Wapakoneta) in the summer of 1851 there is carried an advertisement announcing that William Sawyer had bought the St. Marys *Sentinel and Democrat* and was offering the same for sale. Sawyer, a former speaker of the Ohio state House of Representatives (from the Miamisburg district), had become

a resident of St. Marys in 1843 and at the time of the erection of Auglaize county was representing this district in the Congress. In 1850 he represented this district in the state constitutional convention, later represented the district in the Legislature, was for years mayor and local magistrate at St. Marys, served for some time in the Land Office service in Minnesota, in 1869 became one of the trustees of the State Agricultural College of Ohio and was otherwise active in public service. In those days it was not uncommon for a man who desired political preferment either to have a newspaper of his own or to have such control of a newspaper as to be able to promote his aspirations and have a personal medium of expression. It is not unlikely therefore that it was Sawyer who was financing the *Sentinel and Democrat* and that when it became necessary to abandon the field at St. Marys as a losing venture the plant of the paper fell back upon him for such disposition as might be possible to make of a forlorn hope. It also is not unlikely that he soon found a buyer, for newspaper plants were rather shifting and uncertain quantities in those days and there always was some venturesome individual who needed a medium of personal expression and would be found willing to take over an abandoned plant and "carry on" in his own field.

THE GENESIS OF "THE LEADER."

However, of the final disposition of the *Sentinel and Democrat* there is no record. Nothing then is found concerning the newspaper field at St. Marys until the early '70s, when Edmund B. Walkup abandoned a profitless field at Wapakoneta and moved his *Courant* over to St. Marys, pointing out to the people of Wapakoneta, as has previously been set out, that the people of St. Marys had given him a promise of more liberal support than he had been receiving at the county seat. It is certain that there was no newspaper at St. Marys during the time of the Civil war, for the *Democrat* was the only paper published in this county during that period, and it thus is probable that Walkup's *Courant* was

CHAPTER IX

THE SCHOOLS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTRY.

Any one past the traditional allotment of three score and ten years can describe a pioneer school. No one can describe the pioneer schools. Without system and often apparently without promise or hope, they filled their place in the community life of the sparsely inhabited settlements, dragging along from "term" to "term," subject to the whims and eccentricities of whatever "master" might be in charge for the time; but for all that, they proved their right to persist and it is a matter of some astonishment to the reviewers of the present generation to reflect upon the sound foundations of learning there were laid in the study of the rudiments. Often the "master" was as illiterate as his pupils and less intelligent, but out of the haphazard methods some good inevitably came and the "sacred flame" of learning was not allowed to die out, the torch was not allowed to drop. More often—happily—the master was a man whose soul was aflame with the teaching impulse, whose mind was ripely endowed and richly stored with learning. Fortunate were the pioneer centers into which such a man came. His influence often would be sufficient to recreate an entire community along social lines. Those who were fortunate enough to be brought under the spell of such an influence carried the lessons there learned into their lives and thus passed them on, the old schoolmaster's influence thus persisting even to the present day.

THE ORDINANCE OF 1787.

Happily, the initial settlement of the lands comprising what is now Auglaize county was in most instances made by men who brought a pretty sound schooling with them. They knew the importance of this schooling being handed on to

their children and consequently lost little time after effecting their settlements in getting schools started and in seeing to it that these schools were directed as effectually as might be under prevailing conditions. The Ordinance of 1787 creating the Northwest Territory declared that "schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged" and the pioneers of Ohio in general lived up to the spirit of this ordinance, not simply because it was law, but because, as one commentator phrases it, "they knew the benefits of schools and desired their children to enjoy them."

It hardly would be to the purpose of this compilation to enter into any comprehensive review of the ambling school laws of Ohio up to the time of the passage of what is known as "the Akron law" in 1847, which in 1848 was extended to all incorporated towns of the state and by further extension in the next year came to provide the first real system of free graded schools, so that by the middle of the past century the free graded system was permanently established and was meeting with hearty approval. Before that there had been no uniformity in grading and no unity in management. The "master" was master indeed, responsible only to local directors who too often not only were indifferent to their public duty but often as unqualified to judge of the fitness of the teacher as were some of the "examiners" of the period. Up to as late as 1838 the law only required that teachers should be examined in writing, reading and arithmetic, and these three "rudiments"—including, of course, spelling—constituted the course of study. Textbooks were few. Reviews of the time indicate that Murray's Reader, Dillworth's or Webster's Speller and Pike's Arithmetic were the usual outfit of the teacher and each of the pupils generally had one or more of the books on the list, although more often than not one set had to suffice for all the children of a family. Reading and spelling were the great tests of learning, and to have mastered the arithmetic to the last "sum" in the book was to have acquired an education, at least in the districts.

and has been espousing them since. His daily paper covers the field there, the weekly papers long ago having been discontinued.

REVIEW OF CONDITIONS IN THE '70s.

In the public files of the newspapers in the auditor's office at the court house there are a few fragmentary files of the St. Marys papers back in the '70s. A file of the *Courant*, E. B. Walkup editor and proprietor, beginning with No. 19 of Vol. I (January 2, 1873) and running for about a year, reveals an eight-column, four-page, all home print paper of excellent typography, the proprietor advertising "a full assortment of plain and ornamental type, with good presses. Every description of printing neatly and promptly executed at the very lowest rates. Rooms over Fritsch's drug store." The paper carried some Wapakoneta, Dayton, Sidney and New Bremen advertising, the St. Marys advertisers at that time having been Joseph Plunkett and L. C. Sawyer, attorneys; Charles Fritsch, real estate and insurance; Ohio House, Fred Kohlhorst, proprietor; Dieker House, C. A. Frey, proprietor; Kishler & Shackleton, C. W. Hamisfar and Dr. J. Bradley, physicians; M. Bishop, stoves; J. H. Burnett, furniture; John McEvoy, lime kiln; Richard Smith, harness; J. S. Alspaugh, surveyor; H. Siewert, boots and shoe; William Puetz, "billiard and oyster parlor;" Joseph Wilkins & Co., hardware;; Althausen & Gill, livery; William Limbacher, groceries; Frank Koehl, groceries; St. Marys Building and Loan Association, Louis Fox, secretary; William Machenbach, steam sawmill—"Wanted: 1,000 ash logs; sound and clear;" W. H. Doll, druggist and bookseller; Nettie Simpson, agent "improved automatic knitting machines;" Mrs. W. Hoffer, dry goods; Sharp & Pierce, dry goods, the "Bee Hive" store, which then was "receiving daily from New York and Boston their fall and winter stock" (in January!); Manor & Shelly, groceries, who "also keep the boat store known as the collector's office;" Eclipse sawmill, H. K. Stevenson; New York clothing store, Sol Bamberger, proprietor; George

Knotz, "daily" meat market; E. S. Gross, stoves and tinning; O. Rentzsch, successor to D. Armstrong, dry goods; J. L. Critten, groceries; C. Stuve Lang & Bro., pork packers; Oll Beam, sewing machines; Charles Fritsch, drugs; St. Marys steam mills, Theodore Mausard, proprietor, "who begs leave to say to the farmers that he has been at great expense in putting steam power in his flouring mill and is now better prepared than ever to do custom work, regardless of wind or rain, and expects to give satisfaction to all customers;" J. H. Doering & Co., threshing machines, agents for Auglaize and Shelby counties, who ask threshermen to "remember that the Birdsell has threshed 100 bushels in ten hours time, and as high as fifteen bushels in one hour's running time;" Mrs. E. Young, milliner and dressmaker; Tom Ivins tailor; Charles Hipp, who wants "100,000 feet of elm and hickory butts;" Fred Dieker, livery and feed stable connected with the Dieker House; O. Bennet, hardware; John McLain, painter and glazier; Jay & Co., linseed oil mill; Brink & Reed, painting and glazing, besides a considerable quantity of miscellaneous advertising and patent medicine advertising.

Charles Hipp at that time was postmaster at St. Marys, William Sawyer was mayor and John McLain, city clerk, these latter officials in this issue of the paper giving publication to an ordinance making it unlawful for owners of swine to permit their porkers to run at large on the streets and alleys or unenclosed lots in the city. The free and easy individualism of the pioneer days was beginning to give way to the collective judgment of the community. Other people's logs were being found to be a nuisance. A brief news item had it that "Duchouquet township voted \$75,000 aid to the East and West railroad on Friday last by a vote of eighty-six more than the necessary two-thirds majority. The whole northern portion opposed and even some at Wapak, but they couldn't come it. A tolerable full vote was polled." The editor's use of the diminutive "Wapak" shows that the unhappy present manner of abbreviating the name of the county seat by those heedless of the unusual charm of the

tion" had been placed under official ban, Doctor Mueller included the following bit of polysyllabic versification as a supplementary inducement for the members to attend:

St. Marys is your destination
For Thursday's great jollification
Of The Auglaize Med. Association.
This meeting is a great creation
Consisting of a combination
(Or, if you please, amalgamation),
And is for friendly recreation,
And for your wisdom's augmentation.
As we accept no resignation,
Be sure to come for presentation,
And you will hear of palpitation,
And of the latest transplantation,
And up-to-date sterilization,
Of sounds that mean regurgitation,
And of the needed compensation,
Of grave and serious dislocation,
And defective articulation,
Of our foods' assimilation,
And points of identification,
Of all the germs' annihilation,
Of frequent painful urination,
And of old-fashioned constipation,
And all the best recommendation,
Against all evil machination,
And you will hear some great oration,
And of displaced imagination,
And need of quick organization,
And of all needed legislation,
But if this poem's bad compilation,
Should cause profound mortification,
Do not succumb to quick prostration,
And do not get in consternation,
As there is still in store salvation,
Thanks to the act of distillation,
And also that of fermentation;
But if too much of imbuation,
Should bring about hallucination,
Then we will call for Carrie Nation.

THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LEAGUE.

In the spring of 1922 a number of public spirited men and women representing all sections of the county met at the office of City Health Commissioner Mueller at Wapakoneta and set on foot a movement which presently resulted in the organization and recognition by the Ohio State Public Health Association of a local branch of the affiliated health leagues of the state, which have to do with the promotion of the general public health movements which have become accepted forms of social activity in many parts of the state. The local league adopted the form of constitution prescribed for such organizations and elected officers and a board of directors to have charge of the activities of the association in Auglaize county and the state association issued a charter to the Auglaize County Health League. The officers of this league are as follows: President, Albert Herzing of St. Marys; vice-president, John W. Brackney; treasurer, J. F. Moser, and executive secretary, Dr. C. L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta.

The primary object of this county league is the dissemination of knowledge concerning the prevention of diseases, with particular reference to the prevention of tuberculosis, to promote the cause of public health in the county, to become a constituent member of the Ohio Public Health Association and to co-operate with State and local authorities, thus encouraging and supporting all official work for the prevention of diseases and to secure proper legislation along this line. These activities include the encouragement of the establishment of hospitals, sanatoria and dispensaries, the holding of clinics and arrangements of nursing service, as well as the study of conditions regarding the prevalence of preventable diseases, especially tuberculosis, in the county. The initial board of directors of the league in this county follows: Mrs. Ida Barber, Salem township; P. E. Blank, Waynesfield; Dr. W. E. Bloyer, Buckland; H. D. Bowsher, Logan township; John W. Brackney, Clay township; Mark E. Brewer, Noble township; B. Brockman, New Bremen; G. C. Chronic, Buckland; Henry

ordinance authorizing the city to issue bonds for the establishment of a natural gas plant. Mr. Buss later became connected with newspaper work at St. Marys, where he is now living, the manager of the extensive printing plant maintained in that city by the White Mountain creamery interests. Following the sale of the *Sun* to Mr. Buss in 1888, Mr. Smith started another paper, *The Homelight*, which he published a short while in New Bremen and then moved the plant to the neighboring town of Minster, but presently abandoned that field. The *Stern des Westlichen Ohio* and the *Sun* are of uniform size, eight-page six-column, half home print, and admirably cover their respective fields. Both are published without affiliation to any political party.

The *Post*, published weekly at Minster, was established in 1895 and is thus in its twenty-seventh year. The *Minster Post* is published by the Post Printing Company, John Haverbeck editor and manager, and is a six-column, eight page paper, all home print, which covers well the field it occupies. The company also maintains an up-to-date printing plant in connection with the newspaper and its business in job printing covers much more than what would be regarded as the normal field for its activities. The *Post* was printed first as a German language newspaper, by Henry Holterman, of *Die Post* at Wapakoneta, as has been set out elsewhere, but presently this plan was abandoned and for many years it has been appearing in its present form.

The *Waynesfield Chronicle*, published weekly at Waynesfield by E. Benjamin Yale, who has been editor of the paper for many years, was established in 1885 and is thus in its thirty-seventh year. The *Chronicle* is a six-column, eight-page paper, half home print, and its news columns are devoted especially to the attractive field it has so long and so effectively covered. Mr. Yale also publishes a weekly newspaper at Jackson Center, in the neighboring county of Shelby, and a weekly newspaper at Lakeview, in Logan county, and his editorial activities thus cover a pretty wide local field.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

All honor to the pioneer physician! Many are the stories that have been related in the chronicles of pioneer days of the patient, self-sacrificing services of these earnest servants of humanity, but the whole of that story never can be told. The printed page never carried all that was written on the hearts of the people thus served in the hours of their deep distress, and it is perhaps just as well. A labor of love rarely is properly requited, rarely is narrated in vaunting print. "Love seeketh not her own." And much of the service of the pioneer physician was purely a labor of love, performed without thought or hope of recompense. Hard night rides in killing weather, plodding on the patient pony over indescribably bad roads to the distant bedside of a stricken neighbor, followed perhaps by sleepless hours of vigil at that bed side, doing with inadequate medical supplies all that heart and mind could dictate to relieve suffering wherever found, fully aware oftentimes that no money recompense would be forthcoming—all this went into the daily task of the pioneer physician, and in thus rendering his account to humanity he laid up a store of honor that still is being paid him.

There were fourteen physicians engaged in practice in this county in 1848, the year in which the county was erected. In those days, under the old constitution, physicians and attorneys were listed for special taxation, being required to pay a license of \$1 for the privilege of practicing. The tax duplicate for that year reveals the presence here at that time of the following physicians: In Duchouquet township (Wapakoneta), G. W. Holbrook, John H. Nichols, George

W. Trumbull, Paul Abits and Adolphus Steinhoff; German township (which also then included what now is Jackson township), E. A. VonBeseler, J. P. Schmieder, William A. Haverman and B. H. Neiberg; St. Marys, ——— Holderman, ——— Goodrich, A. O. Connell and R. W. Stearnes, and in Union township, William Craig. There was much illness then, the greater part of this being due to that distressing scourge of fever and ague, "chills," which seemed to follow man in his work of opening the new country all through the middle West, and these doctors no doubt had their hands full. It also was about that time, apparently following the line of construction of the canal, that that terrible scourge of Asiatic cholera, of which the history of that period of settlement in Ohio and eastern Indiana is so full, visited this region, hundreds falling under the scourge—so much so as almost to halt settlement hereabout for a considerable period. It is narrated that in German township alone, following the operations there of the canal crew, that no fewer than 150 persons died of the dread disease, while at St. Marys there also was a shocking toll of death.

In one of the older chronicles of this region there is a little story relating to Dr. Washington G. Kishler, who for more than forty years was engaged in practice at St. Marys, that may be regarded as typical. Doctor Kishler served as a medical steward in the army during the time of the Mexican war and in the spring of 1848, about the time this county was organized, located at Wapakoneta, presently going thence to St. Marys, where for more than forty years he continued in practice. Of him it is narrated that "the Doctor soon became widely known and very popular, not only on account of his social qualities, but for his success in contending with the prevailing diseases, which were principally chills, bilious and intermittent fevers, etc. He visited his patients on horseback for many years, often riding long distances over rough roads or through forest paths, and many a time has seen deer and other wild animals not now found in this part of the country. During his long practice of forty-five years

he has had many varied experiences and has had to deal with many strange and difficult cases. The young doctor of today can have no idea of what the physicians of the past had to go through with in pioneer times."

REGISTERED PHYSICIANS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

In accordance with the legislative act of February 27, 1896, "to regulate the practice of medicine in the state of Ohio" and requiring the filing with the clerk of the probate court of the county of the certificate of the state board of medical registration and examination of the physicians's fitness to practice medicine in the state, the following physicians have registered in Auglaize county, the list being set out with the name of the college from which the registrant was graduated, together with the date of graduation: Cicero Berlin, Medical College of Ohio at Cincinnati, 1863; Colston L. Dine, same, 1886; Franklin C. Hunter, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1872; J. A. Kussman, Medical College of Ohio 1889; Stephen B. Lusk, Starling Medical College, Columbus, 1888; John H. Nichols, Medical College of Ohio, 1872; Ernest B. Nichols, same, 1883; Nathan T. Noble, same, 1869; Rudolph A. Rulman, same, 1881; S. H. Sibert, Starling Medical College, 1881; Simpson M. Ekermeier, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1881; William Seth Turner, same, 1884; Edgar McCormick, Medical College of Ohio, 1888; J. Homer Schaeffer, same, 1891; Edward Marshall Phelps, same, 1896; Charles H. Phelps, same, 1876; J. W. Hurlburt, Homeopathic College of Cleveland, 1877; E. R. Freeman, Pulte Medical College, Cincinnati, 1883; E. F. Everist, Medical College of Ohio, 1882; L. D. Bryan, Columbus Medical College, 1878; W. E. Schoonover, Pulte Medical College, 1885; J. E. Bayliff, same, 1887; Hirman Edgar Pintler, Hahneman Medical College, Chicago, 1895; Henry E. Fledderjohann, University of Pennsylvania, 1886; Peter Radebaugh, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1887; Peter Van Trump, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1874; Rufus I. Kebs, Pennsylvania Medical College, Philadelphia, 1853; Bert Eugene Thomas, Ohio Medical Uni-

versity, 1893; Frank H. Anthony, Hahneman Medical College, 1893; C. W. Meely, no college given; Miltonum Jennea Longsworth, University of Michigan, 1896; Grant S. Staub, Toledo Medical College, 1896; Joseph H. Fisher, no college given; Isaac Elmer Williams, Kent School of Medicine, Louisville, 1892; Charles H. Thomas, same, 1891; Henry S. Noble, same, 1893; S. Spencer Griffiths, Eclectic Medical Institute, Cincinnati, 1896; Carl Ludwig Mueller, University of Marburg, Hessen, Germany, 1886; Robert M. Sproul, Medical College of Ohio, 1880; John Michael Criley, Hahneman Medical College, Philadelphia, 1869; Wesley Turner, Starling Medical College, 1881.

All of the above certificates were filed in the office of the probate court in 1896, the year in which the registration law went into effect, and since then the following physicians have registered for practice in this county: Virginia Harley McKnight, Medical Department of the University of Michigan, 1873; Theodore Ambrose Campbell, Medical College of Ohio, 1897; Charles B. Cheser, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1876; Joel Dubois Holston, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1896; Vallindingham Body, Starling Medical College, 1895, all of whom registered in 1897; H. M. Northam, Medical College of the University of Michigan, 1893; Charles Cicero Berlin, Medical College of Ohio, 1898; Alvin S. Thomas, Kentucky School of Medicine, Louisville, 1894; Fred Delbert Arthur, same, 1898; Jacob H. Heilman, Starling Medical College, 1897; B. E. Carlock, no college given; John P. Scheib, Pulte Medical College, Cincinnati, 1888; Walter Sherman Stuckey, Ft. Wayne (Ind.) College of Medicine, 1892; Harry G. Pyle, Cleveland University of Medicine and Surgery, 1894; G. Glen Frost, Homeopathic Hospital College, Cleveland, 1892; George Washington Chapman, Physio-Medical College, Chicago, 1897—all in 1898; James Malland Greenslade, Rush Medical College, Chicago, 1899; Emanuel Reuben Fast, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1899; Thomas E. Griffiths, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1869—all in 1899; Albert C. Goode, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1899; Charles H. Moore,

Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1868; Thomas John Blakeley, Barnes Medical College, St. Louis, 1897; Burt Hibbard, Medical College, University of Buffalo, 1900; Charles William Mackenbach, Medical College of Ohio, 1900; Charles Thomas Ernsberger, Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, 1900; Frank Albie Shuffleton, Hahneman Medical College, Chicago, 1900—all in 1900; Jesse Franklin Conrad, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1901; William Henry Fesker, Medical College of Ohio, 1900; Ernest Mullen, Medical College of the University of Sewanee, Tennessee, 1894; William Irving Wood, Medical Department, Wooster University, 1888; Ion M. Pfauts, Ohio Medical University, 1898—all in 1901; J. F. Good, Columbus Medical College, 1880; Roy C. Hunter, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1902—all in 1902; Albert La Du Campbell, Medical College of Queens University, Ontario, 1889; Charles A. Strausburg, Pulte Medical College, 1903; Robert C. Alexander, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Keokuk, Iowa, 1883; Ferdinand F. Fledderjohann, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, 1903; Harry Bony Faulder, Cleveland Homeopathic College, 1901—all in 1903; Jackson Frank, Starling Medical College, 1904; James Merton Day, same, 1902; George W. Burner, Columbus Medical College, 1892—all in 1904; Benjamin Franklin Beardsley, Medical College of the University of Buffalo, 1865; Charles William Harbour, Miami Medical College, 1885; Guy Eugene Noble, Starling Medical College, 1905; Harvey Charles Maurer, Medical College of the University of Iowa, 1905; Charles Porter McKee, Starling Medical College, 1995; George Albert Havemann, Miami Medical College, 1905; L. Walter Naus, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1899; Edward Frederick Heffner, Medical College of Ohio, Cincinnati, 1904—all in 1905; Harvey Leslie Smith, Pulte Medical College, 1893; Richard D. Doughty, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1904; G. F. Starr, Baltimore University of Medicine and Surgery, 1889—in 1906; Jefferson L. Talbot, Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, 1867; Richard J. C. Eiche, Pulte Medical College, 1886; Augustine A. Baucraft, Medical College of Pennsylvania, 1869; William Heilman Hossler, Medi-

cal College of Ohio, 1907—in 1907; Augustus Lee Faler, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1905; Henry Joseph Gadenkauf, Ohio Medical University, 1907; Albert Andrew Dougherty, Starling Medical College, 1896—in 1908; Henry Louis Meckstroth, Jefferson Medical College, 1908; Oliver Hubbard Gibbs, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1891; Robert W. Sharp, same, 1873; Irwin Henry Boesel, Homeopathic Medical College of the University of Michigan, 1909; George E. Brattain, Medical College of Ft. Wayne, 1882—in 1909; Andrew Robinson, Queens University, Kingston, Conn., 1895; Nettie B. Streight, College of Osteopathy, Des Moines, Iowa, 1905—in 1910; Chester L. Shimer, New York Homeopathic Medical College, 1883; Nathan Vernon Noble, Starling Medical College, 1911—in 1911; John Alvin Bolton (1912), Medical College of Western Reserve University, 1910; William Henry Tippie, Starling Medical College, 1895; William August Deerhake, School of Medicine, Indiana University, 1908; William A. Gaylord, Still College of Osteopathy, Des Moines, 1901—in 1913; Edmund Grothaus (1914), American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo., 1914; William Anson Forrester (1915), Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, 1888; William E. Bloyer, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1879; O. L. Mapes, no college given; Clarence Frederick Rulman, Medical College of the University of Ohio, 1915; Aldo Vernon Sibert, same, 1915—in 1915; George Leslie Lyne (1916), Dartmouth Medical College, 1895; Charles Edwin Meckstroth (1920), Starling Medical College, 1914; John J. Hanmore, Kentucky School of Medicine, 1884; George Benjamin Faulder, Medical Department of the University of Michigan, 1914, and Fred Blaukner, Marion-Sims College of Medicine, St. Louis, 1916—in 1921.

Some of the names above set out perhaps may not be recognized in the community, no doubt some of the physicians thus registering having been traveling or transient practitioners temporarily in the county and who registered as a mere legal formality. The great majority, however, are the names of men who have become important factors in the

community and this roster therefore will have value in the years to come.

THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In 1904, largely through the energetic efforts of Dr. Carl L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta, the Auglaize County Medical Society was organized. This society has been a continuing force for good hereabout since then and undoubtedly has been largely beneficial in its operations. Since the organization of this society the following names have been included in the necrology of the society, members who have died since then: C. H. Phelps and B. E. Thomas, of St. Marys; E. R. Freeman and E. M. Phelps, of Wapakoneta; M. S. Ekermeyer, of New Bremen; R. W. Sharp, of Buckland; J. W. Hurlburt, of Uniopolis; J. W. Turner, of Santa Fe; G. N. Rulmann, of Minster, and J. M. Day, of Waynesfield.

The present (1922) members of this society are H. S. Noble, F. A. Shuffleton, I. E. Williams, G. E. Noble, C. P. McKee, J. E. Heap and V. N. Noble, all of St. Marys; C. C. Berlin, T. A. Campbell, H. B. Faulder, G. B. Faulder, E. F. Heffner, R. C. Hunter, C. L. Mueller, G. B. Nichols, W. S. Stuckey and G. L. Lyne, of Wapakoneta; H. E. Fledderjohann and C. E. Meckstroth, of New Knoxville; F. F. Fledderjohann and H. G. Rawers, of New Bremen; C. L. Dine, R. A. Rulmann and H. J. Gudenkauf, of Minster; S. H. Sibert, of Freyburg; J. E. Bayliff, of Uniopolis; J. H. Schaffer, of Cridersville; W. E. Bloyer and Doctor Burnett, of Buckland, and J. H. Heileman, of Waynesfield. There are two practicing physicians in the county who are not affiliated with the medical society, H. Henmore, of Waynesfield, and C. A. Strassburg, of Cridersville.

Dr. Carl L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta, for years the executive secretary and "mainspring" of the county medical society, sometimes drops into verse in making up the programs for the meetings of the society. In connection with the meeting held at Wapakoneta in December, 1906, the Doctor's con-

freres were much taken with the following from his versatile pen, submitted under the title of:

THE MESSAGE OF WAUGHPAUGHKONAUGHTAUGH.

On the banks of the Auglaize stream
Where the sycamores are murmuring
And the willow trees are chanting
Of old bygone days and struggles,
Of true love and Indian hatred,
Stood the grim old Indian warrior,
Stood the great Waughpaughkonaughtaugh,
And assembled close around him
Were his battle-proven tribesmen.
After offering silent prayers
To the great and mighty Spirit,
After bowing in devotion
To the east where sun arises,
The great Chieftain spoke as follows:
Warriors, tribesmen, friends and brothers,
Tried and proven, battlescarred,
Proven to be true and loyal;
Long since Indian war has ceased
Tomahawk and knife are rusty
And no longer scalps are dangling
From the belts of fighting redmen,
Withered is the bow, the trusty,
And the only thing remaining
Is the calumet the peaceful.
Times have changed and now the whitemen
Cannot live in peace together.
The great spirit has appeared
In a vision to your Chieftain
And has told of whitemens' struggles,
Of the medicine-mens' quarrels,
How they try to fight each other,
How they follow Indian methods,

And are hunting scalps of others.
Not with knife or bloody weapons,
But they scalp by words and actions.
The great spirit gave me orders
To go on a peaceful mission
And to call them all together
In my wigwam for the twentieth
Of the month of ice and snowstorms
Of the month when days are shortest.
To create harmonious feeling
And subdue obnoxious passions.
You go forth now with this message,
Bring it eastward, west and northward,
Bring it southward, and wherever
Medics may have settled down,
Tell them that the day just named
Brings addition to their knowledge,
Brings enjoyment to their hearts,
And the blessings of true friendship,
And must therefore be observed
By all Sawbones nearby, faroff,
By all Cure 'ems, by all Kill 'ems.
They must lay aside their satchels,
They must let alone their pills,
They must only think of Wapak.
On this great illustrious day,
They shall come to meet their brothers,
They shall learn to love them all.
And the calumet the peaceful
Shall be in supreme command.
They shall all come here to listen
To the flowing words of wisdom
From the lips of learned men.

On sending out notices concerning the meeting of the society held at St. Marys in January, 1909, that being in the days before "the act of distillation, and also that of fermenta-

tion'' had been placed under official ban, Doctor Mueller included the following bit of polysyllabic versification as a supplementary inducement for the members to attend:

St. Marys is your destination
For Thursday's great jollification
Of The Auglaize Med. Association.
This meeting is a great creation
Consisting of a combination
(Or, if you please, amalgamation),
And is for friendly recreation,
And for your wisdom's augmentation.
As we accept no resignation,
Be sure to come for presentation,
And you will hear of palpitation,
And of the latest transplantation,
And up-to-date sterilization,
Of sounds that mean regurgitation,
And of the needed compensation,
Of grave and serious dislocation,
And defective articulation,
Of our foods' assimilation,
And points of identification,
Of all the germs' annihilation,
Of frequent painful urination,
And of old-fashioned constipation,
And all the best recommendation,
Against all evil machination,
And you will hear some great oration,
And of displaced imagination,
And need of quick organization,
And of all needed legislation,
But if this poem's bad compilation,
Should cause profound mortification,
Do not succumb to quick prostration,
And do not get in consternation,
As there is still in store salvation,
Thanks to the act of distillation,
And also that of fermentation;
But if too much of imbuation,
Should bring about hallucination,
Then we will call for Carrie Nation.

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In the spring of 1922 a number of public spirited men and women representing all sections of the county met at the office of City Health Commissioner Mueller at Wapakoneta and set on foot a movement which presently resulted in the organization and recognition by the Ohio State Public Health Association of a local branch of the affiliated health leagues of the state, which have to do with the promotion of the general public health movements which have become accepted forms of social activity in many parts of the state. The local league adopted the form of constitution prescribed for such organizations and elected officers and a board of directors to have charge of the activities of the association in Auglaize county and the state association issued a charter to the Auglaize County Health League. The officers of this league are as follows: President, Albert Herzing of St. Marys; vice-president, John W. Brackney; treasurer, J. F. Moser, and executive secretary, Dr. C. L. Mueller, of Wapakoneta.

The primary object of this county league is the dissemination of knowledge concerning the prevention of diseases, with particular reference to the prevention of tuberculosis, to promote the cause of public health in the county, to become a constituent member of the Ohio Public Health Association and to co-operate with State and local authorities, thus encouraging and supporting all official work for the prevention of diseases and to secure proper legislation along this line. These activities include the encouragement of the establishment of hospitals, sanitarium and dispensaries, the holding of clinics and arrangements of nursing service, as well as the study of conditions regarding the prevalence of preventable diseases, especially tuberculosis, in the county. The initial board of directors of the league in this county follows: Mrs. Ida Barber, Salem township; P. E. Blank, Waynesfield; Dr. W. E. Bloyer, Buckland; H. D. Bowsher, Logan township; John W. Brackney, Clay township; Mark E. Brewer, Noble township; B. Brockman, New Bremen; G. C. Chronic, Buckland; Henry

Detjen, Moulton township; Amos Dowty, St. Marys township; Carl D. Fisher, Jr., Wapakoneta; Mrs. Fred C. Garber, Noble township; Charles E. Green, Union township; Dr. J. E. Heap, St. Marys; Albert Herzing, St. Marys; Chester Howell, Pusheta township; Elmer Jordan, New Bremen; Earl Kent, St. Johns; Mrs. August Kruse, Moulton township; Mrs. E. C. Kuenzel, New Bremen; Henry Kuhlman, New Knoxville; Miss Loretta Laufersweiler, Minster; Herman Laut, New Bremen; J. F. Moser, Wapakoneta; Mrs. E. H. Moser, Wapakoneta; Dr. Carl L. Mueller, Wapakoneta; Dr. C. P. McKee, St. Marys; J. E. McNoughton, New Hampshire; Mrs. H. S. Noble, St. Marys; O. E. Pepple, Wayne township; Mrs. T. E. Reed, St. Marys township; F. J. Rinehart, Uniopolis; George Roess, Cridersville; Dr. R. A. Rulmann, Minster; Mrs. Grover Sammetinger, Pusheta township; Mrs. R. K. Schultz, Wapakoneta; Mrs. F. M. Smith, St. Marys; Mrs. Fred South, New Knoxville; Miss Thecla Stueve, Wapakoneta; and Mrs. Thomas A. White, St. Marys. The county public health leagues are parts of the state association and are nation-wide institutions. As was remarked when the Auglaize County Public Health League was organized, "they have come to stay." The executive committee of the local league is composed as follows: Albert Herzing, H. D. Bowsher, J. W. Brackney, Ben Brockman, Dr. C. P. McKee, J. F. Moser, Dr. C. L. Mueller, F. J. Rinehart and Dr. R. A. Rulmann.

A well equipped free emergency hospital in the Hunter block at Wapakoneta, established years ago by Dr. Franklin C. Hunter and open to all physicians in the county, has long proved its usefulness in emergency cases. Doctor Hunter started in practice in 1872 and has many an interesting story of the discomforts attending practice hereabout in the days when oftentimes the roads were impassable even for a horse, much less for a buggy or "sulky," and when not infrequently this condition led to long tramps through the fields and woods in order to reach a patient at some distant point within the range of the physician's practice.

Dr. J. Morton Howell, of Dayton, Ohio, who in the summer of 1922 was appointed by President Harding to represent the United States as minister to the court of the khedive of Egypt, is a native of Auglaize county, reared at Waynesfield, and has for years ranked well up in the front of the medical profession in Ohio. Doctor Howell received his early medical schooling at Wapakoneta under the capable preceptorship of Dr. Henry L. Mann, who in the '80s of the past century was not only one of the leading physicians of that city but had attained a reputation as a practitioner which extended widely throughout the state. Many years ago Doctor Mann moved to Washington, D. C., where he became engaged in practice and where he still resides.

CHAPTER IX

THE SCHOOLS OF AUGLAIZE COUNRY.

Any one past the traditional allotment of three score and ten years can describe a pioneer school. No one can describe the pioneer schools. Without system and often apparently without promise or hope, they filled their place in the community life of the sparsely inhabited settlements, dragging along from "term" to "term," subject to the whims and eccentricities of whatever "master" might be in charge for the time; but for all that, they proved their right to persist and it is a matter of some astonishment to the reviewers of the present generation to reflect upon the sound foundations of learning there were laid in the study of the rudiments. Often the "master" was as illiterate as his pupils and less intelligent, but out of the haphazard methods some good inevitably came and the "sacred flame" of learning was not allowed to die out, the torch was not allowed to drop. More often—happily—the master was a man whose soul was aflame with the teaching impulse, whose mind was ripely endowed and richly stored with learning. Fortunate were the pioneer centers into which such a man came. His influence often would be sufficient to recreate an entire community along social lines. Those who were fortunate enough to be brought under the spell of such an influence carried the lessons there learned into their lives and thus passed them on, the old schoolmaster's influence thus persisting even to the present day.

THE ORDINANCE OF 1787.

Happily, the initial settlement of the lands comprising what is now Auglaize county was in most instances made by men who brought a pretty sound schooling with them. They knew the importance of this schooling being handed on to

their children and consequently lost little time after effecting their settlements in getting schools started and in seeing to it that these schools were directed as effectually as might be under prevailing conditions. The Ordinance of 1787 creating the Northwest Territory declared that "schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged" and the pioneers of Ohio in general lived up to the spirit of this ordinance, not simply because it was law, but because, as one commentator phrases it, "they knew the benefits of schools and desired their children to enjoy them."

It hardly would be to the purpose of this compilation to enter into any comprehensive review of the ambling school laws of Ohio up to the time of the passage of what is known as "the Akron law" in 1847, which in 1848 was extended to all incorporated towns of the state and by further extension in the next year came to provide the first real system of free graded schools, so that by the middle of the past century the free graded system was permanently established and was meeting with hearty approval. Before that there had been no uniformity in grading and no unity in management. The "master" was master indeed, responsible only to local directors who too often not only were indifferent to their public duty but often as unqualified to judge of the fitness of the teacher as were some of the "examiners" of the period. Up to as late as 1838 the law only required that teachers should be examined in writing, reading and arithmetic, and these three "rudiments"—including, of course, spelling—constituted the course of study. Textbooks were few. Reviews of the time indicate that Murray's Reader, Dillworth's or Webster's Speller and Pike's Arithmetic were the usual outfit of the teacher and each of the pupils generally had one or more of the books on the list, although more often than not one set had to suffice for all the children of a family. Reading and spelling were the great tests of learning, and to have mastered the arithmetic to the last "sum" in the book was to have acquired an education, at least in the districts.

As Henry Howe pointed out in his memorable "Collections" many years ago, these pioneer schools, "were not public schools in any true sense and not free schools in any sense. The land grants were not yet available and school taxes were unknown. The teacher made an agreement to 'keep school' a certain length of time and those who sent children agreed to pay from \$1 to \$3 for each child sent. The school was in reality a private school. The building in which a pioneer school was conducted, if a separate building was used, was extremely simple and uncomfortable. It was generally from fifteen to eighteen feet wide and twenty-four to twenty-eight feet long, and the eaves were about ten feet from the ground. Built of logs, its architecture was similar to that of the log cabin of that day, even to the 'latch string.' The floor was of earth or of puncheons or smooth slabs. In the more elegant buildings the inside walls were covered with boards, but the more common coating was clay mortar. The furniture consisted principally of rude benches without backs, made by splitting logs lengthwise into halves and mounting them, flat side up, on four legs or pins driven into the ground. Desks similarly though less clumsily made were sometimes furnished to the 'big boys and girls.' The room—or at least one end of it—was heated from an immense fireplace. There was no blackboard, no apparatus of even the rudest description to assist the teacher in expounding the lessons."

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THE BUILDING OF THE PIONEER SCHOOL.

Even before the beginning of the school the first matter of importance, of course, was to provide a building for the accommodation of the teacher and his pupils, but this was an easy matter for the pioneers. The settlers of a neighborhood would get together on a specified day and begin the erection of a school house at some point as nearly central as a site could be procured. This was always easy to obtain, as land was worth but \$1.25 an acre and a suitable site could be found where the owner of the land, especially if he had children of a school age—and he generally had, for large families were in



Public School Building at Waynesfield.



Cridersville High School.

fashion in those days—was only too willing to donate an acre or half an acre of his land for the purpose. With this detail of location fixed, the settlers would gather on a day for the “rollin’ ” of the logs essential to the structure and on another day for the “ raisin’ ” of the same, and thus about the third day the school house would be completed.

The typical pioneer school house in this region was made of round logs, or if the settlers were particularly nice about it they took the further trouble to hew the logs, as giving a better “finish” to the job. These logs were notched at the end to form a mortised jointure and the spaces between the logs were filled or “chinked” with sticks and daubed with clay. The roof consisted of clapboards, held in place by poles extending across the roof, called weight poles. The floor was of puncheons, or planks split from logs, two or three inches in thickness and hewed reasonably smooth on the upper side—this, of course, in the days before the portable saw mills came lumbering in. The fireplace was about six feet wide, made of logs lined with clay or undressed limestone, if there chanced to be a quarry nearby. The chimney was made of stone and split sticks plastered with clay. A stout door hung on wooden hinges and was fastened with a wooden latch. A log was cut out of one side to form a long window and this open space was covered with paper greased to make it translucent. Long wooden pins were driven in the log under the window and a broad plank was laid on these pins to serve as a writing desk. The desks were made of half a poplar log, smoothed with an adz and supported by legs driven into the round side. An unlooked-for splinter in these seats might often create an unexpected diversion in the school as some unhappy wight would feel its piercing presence in his quivering anatomy.

The more formal diversions of the school consisted of ciphering matches, spelling bees, “town ball,” Friday afternoon or evening “literaries” and the barring-out of the “master” at Christmas time to compel him to “treat,” all occasions of excitement and merriment. The spelling and the ciphering

matches and the "literaries" would be participated in by the whole neighborhood and the excitement not infrequently would be accentuated by the adjustment of physical as well as mental rivalries, these personal and private physical readjustments often as not terminating in a "free-for-all" fight that would clear the neighborhood atmosphere for weeks to come.

But why continue this description? It is a story that has oft been told, an inseparable part of the wonderful mosaic of our common life, the pattern of which is familiar to all. Yet it is well, "lest we forget," formally to recall to each recurring generation the days of old, and nothing is more important in making up a definite history of the county than the retouching of the old familiar picture of the little pioneer school. The history of these schools lives only in the memory of persons who received what little education they were fortunate enough to secure from teachers who are now sleeping, in some secluded spot their last long slumber; but they more often than not left behind a memory that has grown brighter through the lapse of years.

SOUVENIRS OF OTHER DAYS.

In the A. J. Linzee collection referred to elsewhere in this work there is a pencil drawing by Mr. Linzee of the Old Town school house built in 1835, the sketch being indicated as the first public school house built in Jefferson township, Mercer county, just west of St. Marys, in what later came to be Auglaize county. The picture shows a small hewed-log structure, with a door and one window at the front or side, an outside "chinked" chimney at the end and a clapboard roof held down by weight poles. A notation by the artist says that "there was not a nail in the whole structure. The door was put together with pegs." In this collection there are numerous other sketches of old log houses, including that of the house erected by Robert Linzee at Old Town, west of St. Marys, in 1833, upon his removal up here from Athens, Ohio, the year following the departure of the Indians from this region. Hap-

pily, the school children of this county have no need to draw upon their imaginations in order to visualize a pioneer log house, for there are numerous such examples of the old woodcraft architecture remaining in the county. Along the St. Marys-Wapakoneta highway there are two or three of these old log cabins still standing and in excellent condition. They are tenanted and from the general appearance of the surroundings, those who occupy them apparently take pride in maintaining these interesting relics of the pioneer period.

In this same collection of Mr. Linzee's there is also preserved an interesting souvenir of the schools of the olden days in the form of a hand-engrossed certificate of excellence in study issued by John S. Houston, the old Government surveyor and in his day one of the best teachers of this region. This time-stained certificate reads as follows: "Premium in Arithmetick to Jackson Linzee—By close application, with a brilliant intellect, in 54 days has learned and worked all the sums in addition, subtraction, multiplication & division, with all the compounds, Reduction, Rule of Three, Interest & Practice—aged 13 years. February 26, 1843—at school 54 1/2 days. (Note) Jackson worked over 68 pages of Stockton's Arithmetick in the above time of 54 days. John S. Houston, teacher."

BENEFITS OF THE AKRON LAW.

By the time Auglaize county came to be erected as a separate civic entity in 1848 schools such as the above had sprung up in all parts of the county and as "the Akron law" became operative about that time, an orderly system of procedure soon was inaugurated and the basis for the present admirable school system in the county was well and firmly laid. It was about that time, too, that the teachers were becoming interested in the "get-together" movement which led in 1848 to the passage of the law providing for the appropriation of money in each county for the purpose of holding county teachers' institutes, another long step forward in the

way of proper systematic effort; uniform courses of study were being adopted, grades were being established and maintained and by the time the Civil war broke out the schools of the county were on a pretty firm foundation. The incidental interruption due to that struggle did not prove a lasting handicap and was quickly made up when the flurry was over, a new impetus being given to all forms of endeavor and school movements kept in the lead always, the present wonderful system being a gradual evolution based upon the demands of the successive generations.

It is but proper here to note that the newspapers were faithful and consistent promoters of the schools at all times, particularly during the practically reformatory period along in the '80s and '90s of the past century, and the files of the papers of that period show regularly conducted departments devoted to the schools, even as the papers of today recognize the value of keeping foremost the interests of this vital and vitalizing influence. Prof. J. L. Carson, then superintendent of the Wapakoneta public schools, was a particularly active contributor to the local press during the '80s and through his writing along that line did much to stimulate local school development.

STORY OF A TYPICAL SCHOOL.

According to the older chronicles, one of the first of the pioneer schools established in what is now Auglaize county was that along the Auglaize a mile or two north of the present village of Buckland in Logan township, which at that time was comprised within the confines of Allen county. The narrative concerning this school fixes its date only as "at an early period," refers to it as a log school house and states that "one Benham, and subsequently William Knittle, taught school there. In 1829 Archelaus Martin presided over a school of about fifteen pupils. The pioneer schools were all conducted on the old principle of subscription, the amount stipulated being a certain amount of tuition per pupil. About

1840, however, the people began to take action in the matter of organizing common school districts. As the population of the township increased, school districts were organized and log school houses erected to meet the growing requirements of the public. In 1860 there were six sub-districts, two east and four west of the Auglaize river."

This reference to the early schools of Logan township is but typical. Other townships were organizing in the same fashion. Similar reference to the early schools of Union township, to give another example of pioneer school development, has it that the first school house there (then in Allen county) was erected in 1836. "It was a round log cabin, covered with clapboards held in place by weight poles. The floor was made from puncheons split from white ash logs and hewed on one side. A large fireplace at one end of the room furnished heat for the occupants. They could get no glass for windows, so they used paper. Strips of wood were nailed across the windows, the paper pasted on and oiled with coon oil, which rendered the paper semi-transparent. The next trouble was to keep the birds from cutting the paper. The writing desks were made of puncheons about ten feet long and laid upon pins in the wall. There were two such desks. The seats were saplings split in two, about ten feet long, and legs put in the round side, with the flat side up. Such was the school house in which many of the children of the early settlers received their education. Asa R. Mahin taught the first school in the winter of 1836-7. He was employed for three months at \$10 per month. A. D. Berry taught in 1837-8 and William Gilmore in 1838-9."

The interesting colonization plans carried out at New Bremen and Minster in the early '30s, of course contemplated the immediate erection of schools and churches, those two inestimable handmaidens of progress. According to Professor Williamson's review, "the first public school building in Jackson township was erected in Minster in 1834 and was situated at the corner of Adams and Zweibruken streets. It served as a township and village school building until 1853, when a

four-room brick building was erected in Zweibruken street between Adams and Fifth street. After the establishment of the church and convent at Egypt a school house was built in that locality in 1860. The two-story brick building erected in Minster in 1853 continued in use until 1877, when an elegant brick edifice was erected at a cost of \$22,000." This building was destroyed by fire in the spring of 1905 and pending the erection of the fine new public school building there the parochial school house was used for public school purposes. In this connection, a notation from the pen of F. J. Boerger, then superintendent of schools at Minster, for the Williamson review (1905) points out that "it should be stated here that the schools of Minster from the earliest times have been supported by public funds and Sisters as well as male teachers have submitted to county examination for license to teach. During the '60s and '70s the following teachers were employed at various times: Mr. Renfrow, Mr. Collet and Mr. Schiffer. All three gentlemen were organists of the church as well as teachers. The last named, especially, was quite a good singer and improviser on the organ. In 1880 John Horst took charge of the schools and for sixteen years held his position. It is generally conceded that no better teacher has ever taught at Minster. During the sixteen years of his supervision the following teachers taught the boys' grades: Aloys Roessner, J. H. Reitmeyer, Frank Hackman and B. Sherman. After the erection of the Union school building in 1894 a course of study was adopted and the departments graded in conformity to it."

This same review has it that "the first public school in German township was taught in the log church erected in Bremen in 1835. Two years later the first school house was erected in New Bremen. About 1845 two more houses were erected in the township. The one located a mile north of the village was known as the Kuenning school. The other was located three miles west of the village and was called the West District school. In after years the log houses were replaced by neat brick buildings which are at the present time

(1905) furnished with all the modern school appliances. In 1875 German township was organized into a Union school district and a building was erected at New Bremen in 1876 at a cost of \$17,000. The organization resulted in a great and manifest improvement of the schools. We feel safe in saying that no township of its size in Ohio, not including large cities, has sent a greater number of students to college since 1886 than German township." High praise, indeed, but apparently justified by the facts.

THE DEVELOPING SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The schools of the other townships were developing in much the same fashion. The era of the pioneer log school house had passed, the snug little frame or brick school house, of delightful memory to many whose hair is now growing gray, was taking its place; the villages were erecting ample and substantial school buildings for the proper accommodation of the rapidly growing juvenile population and in due time the township consolidated school came in, with its comprehensive solution of the problem of "the greatest good to the greatest number," and the modern high school with its inestimable benefits to the young people of the county was on its way, gradually working up to its present admirable standard which provides a course in instruction to the youth equal to that of the colleges in the days of the "fathers."

It was about 1891 that the township high school was erected at New Hampshire in Goshen township. Concerning the school situation there, Professor Williamson's review observed that "no village in the county has attended more earnestly to the cause of education than the citizens of New Hampshire and the community immediately surrounding it." Concerning the school situation at New Knoxville, the Professor's review had it that "although organized under the Union School law, the system of graded schools was not introduced (in that village) until 1885, at which time a four-room brick building was erected at a cost of \$5,000." Continuing along

this line, it is noted that "there are no schools in the county under a better system of management than the schools of Washington township. The board of education has always been liberal in the expenditure of money for school improvement. The Washington township board was the first one in the county to pay the tuition of the advanced pupils from the district schools and no township has sent larger numbers to the annual Boxwell examinations than this one. The nine school buildings are modern in their structure and in most instances are surrounded by beautiful lawns, ornamented with shade trees."

Concerning pioneer conditions relating to the schools of Union township, it was observed that "the early schools of Union township were primitive in their character as well as in their teaching. The first school was taught about 1836 by R. C. Layton. The immigration of 1833 and 1834 was so great that it became necessary to erect four school houses. At the close of 1836 all the lands in the township had been entered except section 16 (the school section). It became necessary therefore, in 1836, to build two more school houses. Since that time educational interests have kept pace with the other developments of the township." The first school house in Pusheta township was put up on section 19 in 1834. It was a typical log cabin of the period and is said to have been "used for many years afterward." In addition to the public schools, a Catholic parochial school is maintained at Freyburg and a Lutheran congregation of the Missouri Synod maintains one in the township. The first school house in Wayne township is said to have been built in 1836, one of the typical log buildings. A picture of the township school at Waynesfield, presented in this work, is a graphic illustration of the advance that has been made in school work since that day. Indeed, the pictures of school buildings throughout the county carried in this work provide a more realistic commentary on the progress of the school system than can be set out in words. Will the succeeding generations regard these buildings as "antiquated" as this generation regards the old log school house

or its successor, "the little red school house" of former generations?

THE SCHOOL AS THE COMMUNITY CENTER.

The general effect of the presence of these little old pioneer schools in the days of the formative period of this county ought not to be underestimated by the thoughtless reader whose sense of perspective has not been trained to take in the whole view of that time. These schools were the literal social centers of the neighborhood. Now nearly every township in this county has its "community house," and great conveniences they are. Then the district school was the community house for the district, to which the people gathered when called together under common stress of any sort. Often, before churches properly were organized, they were the common meeting places for religious services, open to any and all denominations alike. In them were held the local political meetings. During the stressful days of the Civil war they were the local rallying places and the centers of local war activities. The community there met for social diversion, spelling schools, writing and singing schools, debating societies, "exhibitions" and the like, and when the farmers' get-together movement started there were held the meetings which inaugurated the coming of the present successful farmers federation. They served well the purposes of the time and place and thus are venerable. Though there still are quite a number of district schools remaining in this county and rendering well the service to which they are adapted, centralization plans are under way in such townships as have not yet adopted that system of bringing the youth under the one roof for greater efficiency of school administration, and those who thoughtfully are furthering these plans believe it will not be long until the days of the district school will have wholly passed.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THEM?

Under the heading "Spelling Schools" an article in the *Auglaize County Democrat* (Wapakoneta) of June 8, 1865, so completely covers the subject and is so fraught with reminiscent interest that it is here reproduced:

"Spelling schools—have you forgotten them? When from all the region round about they gathered into the log school house, with its huge fireplace that yawned like the main entrance to Avernus. How the sleighbells—the old fashioned bells, big in the middle of the string and 'growing small by degrees and beautifully less' toward the broad brass buckles—chimed in every direction long before night—the gathering of the clans.

"Then came one to school, the 'Master'—give him the capital M, for he is entitled to it—Master and all bundled into the huge red double sleigh, strewn with an abundance of straw and tucked up like a Christmas pie, with half a score of good large buffalo robes. There were half a dozen cutters, each with a young man and maiden, they two and no more. And then, again, a pair of jumpers, mounting a great, outlandish bin, heaped up, pressed down and running over—Scripture measure—with small collections of humanity picked up en route from a dozen homes, and all as merry as kittens in a basket of wool. And the bright eyes, red lips, that one caught a glimpse of beneath those pink-lined, quilted hoods, and the silvery laugh that escaped the mufflers and fur tippets they wore then—who does not remember them? Who can ever forget them?

"The school house, destined to be the arena of the conflict, has been swept and garnished; boughs of evergreen adorn the smoke-stained and battered walls. The pellets of chewed paper have all been swept from the ceiling and two pails of water have been brought from the spring and set on a bench in the entry, with an immemorial tincup—a wise provision, indeed, for 'tis warm in the spelling room. The big boys have fanned and replenished the fire till the old chimney fair-

ly jars with the roaring flames and sparks fly out at the top like a furnace—the oriflame of the battle. The two ‘Masters’ are there, the two schools are there; and such a hum and such a moving to and fro! Will they swarm?

“The ferule comes down upon the desk with emphasis. What the roll call is to armies, that ‘rule’ is to whispering, laughing young company. The challengers are arranged on one side and the challenged on the other. Back seats, middle seats, low front seats, all filled. Some of the fathers and grandfathers, who could, no doubt, upon such an occasion ‘shoulder a crutch and show how fields were won,’ occupy the bench of honor nearest the desk.

“Now the preliminaries—the reputed best speller on each side chooses. * * * And so they go, ‘calling names’, until five or six reputed champions stand forth ready to do battle, and the contest is fairly begun at last. Down goes one after another, as words of three syllables are followed by those of four, and these again by words of similar pronunciation and divers significations, until Moses and Susan alone remain.

“The spelling book is exhausted, yet there they stand. Dictionaries are thumbed over, memories are ransacked for ‘words of learned length and sound’ until by and by Moses comes down like a tree and Susan flutters there still, like a little leaf aloft that the forest and the fall have forgotten. Polysyllables follow and by and by Susan hesitates just a breath or two, and twenty tongues are working their way through the labyrinth of letters in a twinkling. Little Susan sinks into the chink left for her on the crowded seat and there is a lull in the battle. Then they all stand in solid phalanx by schools and the struggle is on, to spell each other down. And down they go, like the leaves in winter weather, and the victory is declared for our district and the school is dismissed.

“Then comes the hurraing and bundling, the whispering and glancing, the pairing off and the tumbling in. There are hearts that flutter and hearts that ache; mittens that are not worn, hopes that are not realized and fond looks that are not returned. There is a jingling at the door; one after another

of the sleighs dash up, receive their nestling freight and are gone.

“Our ‘Master’ covers the fire and puts out the candles and we wait for him. Don’t you remember how he used to pinch the smoking wick with the forefinger and thumb and then thrust each helpless luminary headfirst into the socket? The bells ring faintly in the woods over the hill, in the valley. They are gone. The school house is dark and tenantless and we are alone with the night. Merry, care free company! Some of them are sorrowing; some are dead and all, we fear, are changed. Spell! Ah, the ‘spell’ that has come over that crowd of young dreamers—over you—over us—will it ever be dissolved?”

THE WAPAKONETA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From a history of the Wapakoneta public schools published in 1876 it is learned that the leaders in the work of organizing the first school in what now is the county seat town were Robert J. Skinner, who located at Wapakoneta as receiver for the land office upon the opening of the old Indian reservation lands there for settlement in 1831; T. B. Van-Horn, who was the auctioneer for the land sales, and James Elliott, one of the sons of Capt. John Elliott, the old Government blacksmith on the reservation. It is narrated that it was through the enterprise of these three that a one-story brick school building was erected on the bank of the Auglaize, in the neighborhood of the present B. & O. railway station, but that “the building material was of such inferior quality that it rapidly fell into decay and a few years later fell down.” It was reported that “the brick were so soft that the boys cut holes through the walls, which afforded opportunities, when the master’s back was turned, of ‘gliding out to go a fishing.’” While it stood this building served the purpose of school house, church and town hall, the only public building on the place.

The first teacher who taught in this building was one Smith, who taught in the winter of 1834-5 and in the winter

following, and is said to have been a good teacher. The text books in use were the English Reader and Introduction, Kirkham's Grammar and Pike's Arithmetic. The school was supported by subscription, the teacher "boarding around," and the fuel was supplied by the patrons of the schools, each patron furnishing an amount of wood proportionate to the number of pupils he sent to school. Mr. Smith was followed by Lemuel H. Ide, who taught during the winter of 1836-7 and the winter following and who "is mentioned in commendable terms by those who attended school at that time." Samuel Harvey taught during the winter of 1838-9 and was followed by Z. B. Rooker, who was the first teacher here to receive money from the tuition fund established under the law of 1838. In the winter of 1841-2 Dr. D. W. Littlefield conducted the school and Dominicus Flaitz, afterward county surveyor, started a private school for German speaking pupils, which he maintained for several years. J. A. McFarland succeeded Littlefield and was in turn succeeded by Samuel Brady, who carried on the school in the old Indian trading house of Peter Hammell, the little brick school house having by that time become untenable. Isaac Dawson followed him and taught in the same building until 1847.

In the meantime the Methodists had erected a meeting house and in 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected, the school was carried on in the church, which in that same year also was used as a place for holding court and so continued until the court house was built. Burwell Good was the first teacher in the church building and was followed by George H. Stephenson and James I. Elliott. In the summer of 1849 the first "summer school" was taught by Sarah E. Whitney (afterward Mrs. W. V. M. Layton), who had in the year previous taught a term at St. Marys and who came to Wapakoneta with the family of John J. Rickley, the first treasurer of the county. It is said that John Nichols and James Skinner each paid the tuition of a pupil in order, as they said, "to have another young lady in town." In the summer of 1850 Jane Aldrich taught a summer term of school

and thereafter this form of private school was maintained in the town pretty regularly, thus giving the children of such families as desired more than the four months training of the public school an opportunity to extend the course.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR RICHARDSON.

In the winter of 1849-50 Andrew Poe was in charge of the public school and he was succeeded by Professor Westby, of Lima, who was succeeded by George M. Espich, of whom it is written that he "taught six months at a salary of \$150, of which \$105 was paid from the public tuition fund and the remainder by subscription. He taught a second term at a salary of \$210." John S. Williams, afterward probate judge, followed Espich as the teacher of the village school and he in turn by A. B. Norris, Calvin Crowe, Isaac Soles and wife, Mary Elliott and a Mr. Muchler. By this time the town was becoming well established and in the summer of 1856 a brick school building of three rooms was erected on the site of the present Williamson school building, the same being put up at a cost of \$2,517. The first teachers in this building were Sylvester Mihill and wife, who continued for two years. In the fall of 1858 George H. Richardson was placed in charge of the school and he continued for three years, the grammar school department at first being in charge of Mary Barrington and the primary, Miss Q. L. Lytle. Later Miss Mattie Crowell was in charge of the grammar department, while Miss Mary Barrington taught the primary department.

Prof. George H. Richardson, above referred to, was a Massachusetts man, a graduate of either Harvard or Yale, and was a man of great learning and deep piety. Moreover he was a man of extremely pleasing personality and a splendid type of Christian gentleman. While he was superintendent of the Wapakoneta schools the war cloud which had been gathering for some time broke in all its fury and the country was in the midst of a terrible civil war. In the early stages of the Civil war Professor Richardson accepted a call to the

superintendency of the Muncie (Ind.) public schools. Soon the older boys of the academy began, one by one, to enlist in defense of their country and in a short time but few were left. With the remark. "It is as much my duty to fight and risk my life in defense of my country as the boys of my school," Professor Richardson resigned the superintendency, enlisted as a private in an Indiana regiment and was soon on the way to join other comrades on the front in West Virginia. While on the train, thinking of no immediate danger, he was shot by a Confederate sharpshooter concealed in the bush near the railroad and was instantly killed, being shot through the heart. His remains were taken to Middletown, Md., and given a Christian burial. His untimely death caused intense sorrow to the people of Wapakoneta and Munice, where he was greatly beloved.

Professor Richardson was succeeded in the Wapakoneta schools by B. S. McFarland, who was principal in 1860. Some mystery seems to attach to the direction of the school during the Civil war period, for the review above referred to simply says of that time that "it appears on the record that the board was unfortunate in the selection of principals from 1861 to 1865," It is true that in many Northern communities the local dissensions of the Civil war time were carried into the schools, in some instances practically disrupting them for the time, and on that period it may perhaps be as well to drop a veil, even as it apparently was deemed an act of discretion on some one's part to remove from the public files of the newspapers the file covering the war period of the only newspaper then published in Auglaize county.

LATER PROGRESS OF THE SCHOOLS.

In the fall of 1865, following the close of the war, the schools entered upon their first term of nine months. The Rev. W. C. Barnett was placed in charge as principal and he was followed by Benjamin Bear. It was in 1866 that the Wapakoneta schools were reorganized under the operation

of "the Akron school law" and in that same year an addition of two rooms was built onto the school building. Of Leonard Alleman, the first superintendent of schools under this reorganization, who was elected by the board in 1867, it is written that he "proved to be incompetent and was dismissed before the close of the year." It was then that the late Prof. C. W. Williamson, of excellent memory throughout this region, was elected superintendent of schools at Wapakoneta. He served in this capacity for eleven years, or until 1879, and during that time did much to develop the schools. The present old Third Ward school building, which was erected under his superintendency in 1875 at a cost of \$28,000, now carries the name of the Williamson school in honor of his memory. In 1889 a second school building was necessary to take care of the growing population in the east end of town and the Second Ward building was erected at a cost of \$12,000. The high school was carried on in the Third Ward building until 1908, when the handsome new high school was erected on south Blackhoff street at a cost of \$35,000 and named the Blume high school in honor of the donor of the site, the late L. N. Blume, who was one of the members of the local school board at the time the structure was erected. In addition to the donation during his life of the site of the Blume high school, Mr. Blume devised in his last will that \$50,000 of his estate be set off to the city of Wapakoneta for library purposes. The provisions of this bequest have not yet been carried out, pending a decision as to the specific form the benefaction shall take.

William Hoover succeeded Professor Williamson as superintendent of schools, serving two years, and in 1881 was succeeded by J. L. Carson, who served until 1887 when the board re-elected Professor Williamson who meanwhile had been in charge of the New Bremen schools and who continued in charge for twelve years, or until 1899, when he was succeeded by H. H. Helter, who in 1908 was succeeded by Charles Hauptert, who served but one year and in 1909 was succeeded by F. E. Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds served for twelve years, or until 1921, when he was succeeded by Charles C. Nardin,



Memorial Park at St. Marys.



Old West Side School Building, St. Marys.

the present superintendent of the city schools. In addition to the public schools at Wapakoneta, St. Joseph's Catholic parish maintains a parochial school, which was rebuilt in 1900 at a cost of around \$30,000 and in which the children of the parish are carried into the higher grades of the public schools.

Under Superintendent Nardin's direction in the city schools is the following teaching staff, a roster that will be interesting for comparative purposes in the next generation: Blume high school—R. Menschel, principal; W. L. Swaidner, H. L. Edmonds, E. E. Nott, T. C. Wiley, Sarah M. Howell, Norma L. Wintzer, M. Cleona Gabriel, Pera Campbell, Naomi Caldwell, Edith M. Dakin, Clara Postle, Mildred E. Schmidt and B. T. Goodman. Williamson school—Kate Kohler, Lulu Bechdolt, Elizabeth Chrismer, E. Jane Bailey, Helen L. Walter, Florence Anderegg, Essie Wolph, Julia Burk and Della Morrin. Second ward school—H. W. Gibbs, Edith Hettle, Jane Burnfield, Ida Brown, Mrs. H. W. Gibbs, Selma Knierim, Hulda Abe and Ione Breese. Supervisor of music, Grace Mytinger. The class of 1922, Blume high school, numbered eighty-one.

THE SCHOOLS OF ST. MARYS.

Prof. C. C. McBroom has been superintendent of the St. Marys public schools since 1907 and is aided by the following efficient corps of assistants and teachers: Charles Candler, principal of the high school (West Side); Burl Frampton, principal of the East side school; Ivy McNeil, Lillian Williams, Cora Smith, P. H. Koehler, Nelson Campbell, Edith Slabaugh, Hazel Bay, Fred Koenig, Floyd G. Brown, Reinhart Kuhlman, Lola Fisher, Mrs. Mollie Bowen, Naomi Moore, Pauline Zwez, Mildred Frey, Alice Youngs, Nellie Keuthan, Maragaret Bridgeford, Lillian Boltz, Mrs. Edith Orphal, Irma Schmehl, Nettie Cooper, Grace McSherry, Luetta Seifert, Clara Finke, Thetis Martin, Margaret Heine, Belva Marshall, Edith Smith, Grace Watkins, Audrey Cisco and Marguerite Geiger. In the campus of the high school

at St. Marys there stands an impressive monument on the face of which is inscribed the following legend: "Loyalty. Erected 1915 by past and present patriotic citizens of St. Marys in commemoration of our volunteers of the Civil war, 1861-1865."

Having been the first center of orderly settlement in the region now comprised within the confines of Auglaize county, St. Marys was the initial point of organized school development here and the high standard set by those who rendered pioneer service in the schools there has been maintained through all the years since. Professor Williamson's review of conditions affecting the development of the school system in this county has it that the first schools taught in St. Marys were called "pay schools," that is, the pupils were taught for a certain charge apiece, usually fifty cents a month or \$1.50 for a "quarter" of twelve weeks. A school of this kind was taught by James Laird in the old log school house situated in the southwestern part of the village, from 1825 to 1831. Laird was an Irishman noted for his witticisms. In 1832 he delivered a Fourth of July speech which, for the merriment it produced, has not been surpassed since that date. His peroration closed with the declaration that "Whoever will come for to go, or go for to come to strike at the heart of Liberty, he must first pierce my own heart." James Laird was succeeded by James Watson Riley, who taught in the court house during the year 1831-2. In that year he performed the triple duties of teacher, county clerk and county surveyor. Mr. Riley was followed by Miss Abbott, a lady of superior ability, who taught during the years 1833-6.

As the village grew in population the schools increased in number. It is difficult to assign dates to the following teachers who were known to have taught at times from 1836 to 1852. In 1837 Mrs. McGinley taught in the log school house. In the following year Miss Sarah Henry taught in the same building. Later Mary and Susan Barrington taught in rooms owned by Mr. Stattler on Main street. Schools also were taught by Miss Ward on Wayne street, by Miss Almira

McLaughlin on Main street and by the Rev. Mr. Cameron in the old court house. Mr. Cameron was succeeded by Levi Hamaker, who served in the dual capacity of school teacher and collector on the Miami canal from 1851 to 1853. In 1853 the village schools were reorganized under the "Akron law," and since then the following have served as superintendents of the schools: A. Rodgers, 1853-55; John Fairbanks, 1855-57; Professor Templeton, 1857-58; William Richardson, 1858-60; S. F. DeFord, 1860-64; J. B. Peaslee, 1864-66; W. F. Torrence, 1866-79; J. A. Barber, 1879-81; J. A. Shawan, 1881-83; C. S. Wheaton, 1883-89; J. D. Simkins, 1889-1903; Elmer Hotchkiss, 1903-07; C. C. McBroom, 1907 to the present time.

MRS. TOUVELLE'S REMINISCENCES.

Supplemental to the above and as a most interesting sidelight on conditions respecting the pioneer schools of St. Marys, the following story of the schools of that town written by Mrs. T. G. Touvelle for a souvenir book commemorating "Home Coming" week at St. Marys in July, 1907, is here introduced as one of the most informative contributions along this line ever prepared in this county. Said Mrs. Touvelle: "From the beginning of the history of St. Marys to the present time her inhabitants have made school a paramount consideration. The first school of which we have any knowledge was taught by James McIntire, a soldier. The school was taught in a little log cabin at the south end of Wayne street, then called the Chickasaw road. Sixteen children, some of them only five or six years of age, found their way through briars and bushes to this primitive school. One primer, a Testament and one English Reader were all the books they had. The nearest store was in Piqua. The people were poor and paper scarce and the children learned to write on pieces of paper given to them by French traders.

"Previous to 1844 Ohio made no provision for the support of schools, and to provide schooling for their children the subscription schools of St. Marys began, a knowledge of which

has almost reached the bounds of tradition. Teachers came only as brought by Government agents or came to visit friends and were persuaded to stay. The pay was small, seldom more than \$3 a month. Families from New England, Baltimore, Virginia and Maryland moved into this promising village and to the intelligence, good sense and fortitude of these families St. Marys owes the excellence of her early schools. In the old court house and block house subscription schools were taught by Oliver Rood, Stacy Taylor and Rev. Simeon Gregg. Mrs. Dumbauld, wife of a government surveyor and a niece of President Monroe; Mrs. McGinley, of New York, and Miss Abigail Medbury, of Providence, R. I., educated and refined young women, came to visit friends and remained as teachers. In 1848 Miss Henry, of Lenox, Mass., taught a select school for girls in the brick church on the south end of Main street. In 1850 the two-story frame house, now known as the Sawyer home, was known as the Cameron Academy or Hall of Science. The boys and girls studied in separate rooms and recited together. Miss Mary Barrington taught a girls' school in the basement of the Baptist church and Rev. Fitzgerald taught a school for young ladies in the north half of a brick house on Front street, now the home of Mrs. Mary DeRush and Mrs. Chenwith.

"The state having made provision, common schools were taught six months of each year. Several male teachers had charge of these schools, which were very crowded. Mr. Torrence, Mr. Morris and Mr. Hamaker were some of the teachers. The passage of the 'Akron school law' gave to St. Marys its opportunity for a graded school and in 1853 a school organized under this law was opened in St. Marys. Rev. Holliday was superintendent; Miss Anna Pierce was assigned to the first room and Miss Almira McLaughlin, to the second; Mr. Dixon to the fourth and Miss Ethie Pearce to high school. There were only four rooms to the first building, but in 1855 an addition was built and two departments added. In this latter year Rev. A. Rogers was made superintendent. He was a scholarly man and left an impression on

the literary work of the school. Jonathan Fairbanks, of Massachusetts, was teacher of the fourth room. He succeeded Mr. Rogers and the remarkable work of the school began with his administration. The Union school of St. Marys was famous over northwestern Ohio, pupils entering and continuing for years from Celina, Lima, Piqua and New Bremen. During the time of Mr. Fairbanks's superintendency came the beginning of the Civil war, a period of painful and momentous interest in the school, when teachers and boys closed their books and with long, questioning looks toward the old Fifth and high school, went out to battle. Mr. Fairbanks was succeeded by S. F. Deford, who remained for two years and was followed by Oliver Temple, who remained one year. Teachers in Union school prior to 1865: S. Hollida, Ethel Pearce, Anna Pearce, Almira McLaughlin, Mary McLaughlin, Alice Ketcham, Flora Mills, Marie Wood, Jemima Breckon, Julia Linzee, Mary Phelps, Alice McKee, Sadie Elliott, Vennie Vorhees, Mary Adams, Anna Davis, William Shaw, George Richardson, William Josselyn, George Espy, Emmet Carpenter, William McKee, Charles Phelps, Michael Stone and Sallie Kyle.

"The inhabitants of St. Marys were always a music loving people. The itinerant singing school teachers always found a warm welcome and taught singing school in the old Methodist church and in the basement of the Baptist church. We recall the do-ra-me drilling of Professor Adams's scales and the famous school exhibitions owed much to Professor Shaw and Professor Belden, who drilled chorus classes. To Philip von Herzing does St. Marys owe its love for and early instructions in classical music. A graduate of a German university, and having the intense love of music characteristic of the German student, he missed the music of the Fatherland and through his influence Prof. Emil Weinberg came to the little village of St. Marys in 1856 and organized classes in violin and piano. Some of his pupils were very proficient and became celebrated. He gave several musicals, the first in the dining room of the Dieker House. He remained in St. Marys three years and then went to Milwaukee, where he acquired a

national reputation. The first concert company that visited St. Marys was the Swiss Bell Ringers, who gave a concert in the Sawyer House hall in October, 1855. In November, 1855, the Lima brass band gave a concert in Sawyer House hall and in the winter of 1856 the St. Marys brass band was organized. The members were Anderson Hunter, Richard Gibson, George Moeglich, Samuel Huffman, Francis Miller and William Kimple, the latter of whom was the leader. They practiced in the large room on the second floor of the Wegley building and in September, 1856, went to Lima by invitation of Hon. M. H. Nichols and headed the procession in the great Buchanan rally of that year. Their uniform was a linen duster and straw hat."

COUNTY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.

The Auglaize County Teachers' Association dates from the fall of 1868 when, at a meeting held in the old brick school building at Wapakoneta, a constitution and by-laws were adopted for such an association and officers were elected as follows: President, W. F. Torrence, principal of the St. Marys school; vice presidents, H. W. Bockmoehl, C. C. Pepple and Emma C. Good; secretary, F. C. Layton; treasurer, Middleton Lucas, and executive committee, C. W. Williamson, William Blakely and C. B. Smith. Levi Hamaker, probate judge; Edward Meyer, county clerk, and the county school examiners, W. V. M. Layton, Rev. W. C. Barnett and Dr. C. C. Berlin, were present and participated in the organization. The initial membership of this association, a list that will revive memories of many of the best known teachers of that period, follows: C. W. Williamson, W. F. Torrence, Maggie L. Roney, Nettie Hollingsworth, Amelia M. Wood, Emma A. Good, Zida S. Layton, Jennie S. ———, Carrie M. Elliott, Mary B. Elliott, Nettie Simpson, Tallie Trimble, S. B. Smith, William Pinkerton, C. T. Cook, T. A. E. Weadock, H. W. Bockmoehl, Oliver McDonald, John Knierman, Robert Montgomery, Thomas J. Hasting, Daniel

D. Dapper, Joseph Gearing, R. G. Montgomery, Julian F. Lewis, H. W. Stearns, E. B. Stiner, W. H. Blakely, Middleton Lucas, F. C. Layton and Emma Mott. A two-weeks institute was held at Wapakoneta, beginning August 16, 1869, and the teachers' institute thereafter became a fixed feature, the influence of these institutes soon becoming perceptible in all sections of the county in the introduction of better and more systematic methods of teaching. Since 1897 these meetings have been of but one week's duration. Professor Williamson's review has it that "a notable degree of improvement in the country schools dates from the year 1891, when a movement was inaugurated to prepare and place an exhibit of the school work of the county at the World's Fair at Chicago. Arrangements were made at the annual institute of 1891 to place the manuscript work of branches taught in the schools on exhibition in the city hall in February, 1893, and at the World's Fair in the following March. The most numerous attended meeting of teachers ever held in the county assembled at the opening of the exhibition. At the close of the World's Fair management a diploma and medal were awarded to the schools of the county for the excellence of work in their exhibit. Certificates of special merit were awarded to the schools of Cridersville, Minster, St. Marys and Wapakoneta. Miss Nancy Broderick, of Moulton township, also received a certificate for excellent primary work in a country school district."

ROSTER OF TEACHERS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

An excellent normal school course is maintained in the county for the benefit of teachers and prospective teachers, the director of this course being Mrs. Olive M. Eggleston, who is assisted by Jessie Bryant and Catherine Culleton. The present (1922) county superintendent of schools is Glenn Drummond, who is assisted in his office by W. Sanders Idle. The superintendent of the Waynesfield village schools is W. A. Miller; Minster, J. C. Halsema, and New Bremen, Elmer

W. Jordan. The staff of teachers under the direction of the county superintendent follows:

Waynesfield—Lester Stough, Blanche Augsberger, Elizabeth Kippler, Roger Patrick, LeVon Doty, Elinor Feikert, Eva Coffin, Mary Leininger, Nova Elder.

Minster—A. H. Knapke, Marie Bornhorst, Gertrude Steinberger, Constance Durbin, Sr. M. Rosalinda Rieman, Sr. M. Eleanora Riffel, Sr. M. Symphorosa Baer, Sr. M. Virginia Eschle, Sr. M. Cecilia Paluszak, Sr. M. Justa Rickenbrode, Sr. M. Marina Yost, Sr. M. Ruth Heuisen.

New Bremen—G. L. Conrad, Ruth Carlisle, Mary Wiseman, Alvina Burk, O. A. Diehm, Otto C. Doenges, Marie Roche, Emma Loy, Helen Neiter, Esther Brandt, Bertha Wierth, Marie Greiwe, Esther Vornholt, Edgar Wierth.

Uniopolis—John W. Davies, Loy Stevely, Charles Parlette, Helen Baily; (Rural)—Hardin, Lillie Parlette; Walton, Doris Sellers; Ohler, Ethel McDougale.

New Hampshire—J. E. McNaughton, Geneva Tabor, O. F. Lusk, Hazel VanHorn, Ruby Feikert, Cecile Hull.

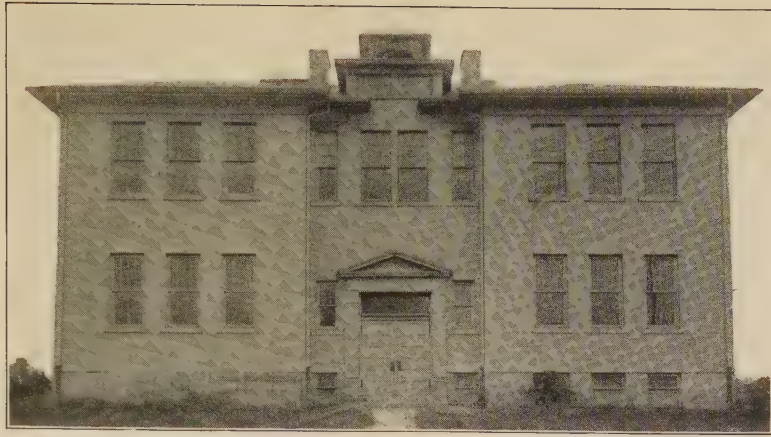
Cridersville—Edna Hawisher, George Roess, Cosetta Scott, Alvena Mowery, Helen Fix, Jessie Bryant.

Buckland—George E. Chronic, John H. Rousculp, Miss Nellie Parlette, Miss Edna Crabb, Miss Llewena Marsh; (Rural)—Sodom, Vida Richardson; Butcher, Mildred Ramge; Place, Una Steveley; Doering, Theodora Gilberg.

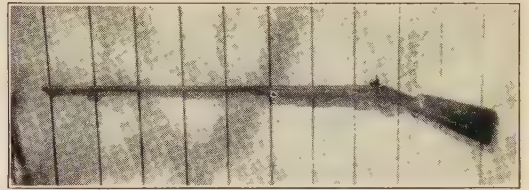
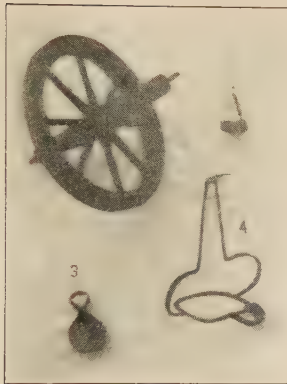
New Knoxville—Edwin J. Meyerholtz, Paul Wenger, Elizabeth Kuck, F. A. Grewe, Selma Cook, Marianne Wellman.

Salem Township—Deep Cut, Mildred Greek; Smith, Lucille Wright; Kossuth, W. R. Briggs; Kossuth primary, Meta Meckstroth; Croft, Grace Banning; Swamp College, Mrs. Tillie C. Anderson; Barber, John Gallman.

Noble Township—Moehl, Bertha Aufderhaar; Brewer, Joyce Bailey; Slife, Muna Hamilton; Doute, Flossie Mae Smith; Walnut Grove, Melva Miley; Warman, Sadie Miley; Four Mile, Gretchen Nickel; Yahl, Lois Brewer.



Public School at New Hampshire.



1. Wheel from one of the barrows used by Bernard Ortman of Minster in 1835 while aiding in canal construction.

2. Fat lamp used in homes of the pioneers. Minster collection.

3. Head of grubbing hoe used by Bernard Ortman in 1835 on canal work.

4. Iron trivet or "spider" used by pioneers of Minster to support pots or pans over a fire.

Gun owned and carried by John B. Feldman, one of the committee of six who walked from Cincinnati to the Government land office at Piqua in 1833 to enter the original tract (mile square) for the Stallotown (now Minster) town site.



Public School Building, St. Johns.

St. Marys township—Koop, Mabel Barrington; Poppe, Mrs. Sophy Reed; Carter Creek, Ella Wellman; Dohse, Araminta Kuhlman; Ferguson, William Huffman; Graybill, Helen Waesch; Huenke, Corla Ike.

German Township—West Side special, Clement Steinecker.

Jackson Township—Egypt, Marie Willke; Egypt primary, Louise Puthoff; Jackson special, Fred Huber.

Logan Township—Elm Tree Hall, Frank Holtzapple; Zion, Mrs. Jennie Richardson.

Moulton Township—Glynwood, Carl F. Minnich; Townline, Laura Oelrich; Burke, Cora Birk; Moulton, Catherine Culleton; Dorley, Winona Bailey.

Washington Township—Chapel, Marcella Hoge; Walnut Grove, Irvin Katterheinrich; Burk, Clara Kolter; Brookside, Mrs. Caroline Holtkamp; Burroak, Edwin B. Mahn; Cloverleaf, Bertha Haberkamp; Cleardale, Gretchen Rohrbacker.

Duchouquet Township—Parlette, Opal Spees; Infirmary, Jessie Crawford; Whiteman, Mildred Sillin; Burton, Ida Williams; Burden, George Berlet.

Pusheta Township—Winegardner, Louis Blank; Lenox, Nora Hettle; Weimert, S. W. Frazier; Taylor, Leona Hittelpole; Roode, Clarice Shanks; Mentz, Thomas Burke, Jr.

Clay Township—Idle, Ella Watkins; Eheman, Mrs. Ruth Helmlinger; Geyer, Mamie Fogt; Santa Fe, Mamie Roediger; Dearbaugh, Lulu Duvall; St. Johns, Earl F. Kent; St. Johns (primary), Mrs. Lela B. Kent; Dobie, L. A. Musser; Lusk, J. W. Swartz; Line, Alethia Elliott; Rinehart, Roy Clinger-man.

Wayne Township—Sugar Grove, Riley Wilson; Wallace Fork, Mrs. Eldon Buffenbarger; Nickell Valley, Eldon Buffenbarger; Willow Branch, Hazel Baker.

Music Supervisors—W. L. Gebhart, Albert A. Jones and Miss Laura Niederhaus.

CHAPTER X.

THE CHURCHES OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

No more illuminating commentary can be made on the state of the church in Auglaize county than that silently submitted by the pictures of a representative number of the churches of the county presented in this work. These pictures, of course, are those of but a few of the churches of the county, but they may be regarded as typical of the average style and character of the edifices erected for worship here, all deeply significant of the earnestness behind the motives of those congregations which promoted and secured their erection.

The history of the settlement period of this country shows that wherever men gathered in settlements their first thought after getting themselves housed was of church and school, temples for worship and temples for learning. As has been shown in the chapter preceding this, church and school more often than not were the same, for the little log house which served as a place of schooling for the youth not infrequently served for the time as a place for the worship of the elders. The church, architecturally, at least, in this county has been a gradual evolution, even as has been the school. It is a far cry from the humble log church in the wildwood to the handsome and substantial edifices in which the people of the county today gather for worship, but no one will dare say that the worship of the fathers was any less sincere or fervent, the service of the heart any less deeply felt that was rendered in the cabin than that rendered in the stately edifices of today; or that the quavering voices pitched to the vibrant tones of the old "tuning fork" of the pioneer precursor fell less short of the Throne of Grace than those of

today attuned to the deep and reverberent notes of the costly pipe organ. The heart behind it all remains the same.

At first the pioneers were content to erect their church buildings in much the same fashion as they erected their school buildings and their homes—following the lines of least resistance in woodcraft architecture. After awhile, as saw mills came in or brick-kilns were established, these log houses gave way to the humble frame or the modest brick structure, ample in size for the needs of the congregation. As settlement advanced, these houses became too limited in dimensions and others, a little better in style and more commodious were erected to supplant them. Then during the practically reconstructive days of the '80s and '90s of the past century, when all forms of endeavor hereabout were being accelerated, many of the present handsome and imposing edifices were erected—proper symbols of the growth and increase of the community. Others were rebuilt even as late as the early years of the present century, but church building in this county, for this generation, was practically completed twenty years ago. And the same tearing down and rebuilding process no doubt will be carried on by the succeeding generation and each succeeding one. While the saying that each generation makes its own religion is not one of common acceptance, it has been proved practically true that in this country each generation does make its own churches. Hence fifty years from now the pictures of the churches presented in this volume will have a real historic interest to the grandchildren of those who worship in these now ample and stately edifices. Will they smile at their “humble” proportions, even as this generation is wont to smile at the “humble” proportions of those accommodations which served well the needs of the fathers?

SIXTY-FIVE “GOING” CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

From the report of the church and community survey made in Auglaize county in 1921 under the direction of the Ohio Federation of Churches it is revealed that there are no fewer than sixty-five “going” churches in this county and

eleven abandoned churches, these latter including one each of the United Brethren, Methodist Protestant, German Methodist Episcopal; two each of the Radical United Brethren and Methodist Episcopal, and four of the Christian denomination or Disciples of Christ. The construction of the complete system of good roads and the coming of the automobile, with the easy means of reaching the social centers of the various communities of the county, have sounded the knell of the rural church in many communities in Ohio and Auglaize county has profited by these conditions, the members of many of the rural churches finding it just as convenient to drive into the town or village for service and thus relieve the unnecessary "overhead" of maintaining a church whose day of immediate usefulness has passed.

The continuing churches of the county are divided among the several denominations as follows: Adventist (Seventh Day), one; Baptist, two; Catholic, six; Christian Union, one; Christian, three; Church of Christ, two; Church of God, two; Evangelical, four; Lutheran, five; Lutheran (German), one; Methodist Episcopal, twelve; Methodist Episcopal (German), one; Methodist Protestant, six; Methodist (Free), one; Pentecostal, one; Presbyterian, four; Reformed Church, three; United Brethren, six; United Brethren (Radical), two. There are Catholic parishes at Wapakoneta, St. Marys, Minster, Freyburg, Glynwood and Egypt. In the two towns in the county of more than 5,000 population, Wapakoneta is served by the following churches: First Methodist Episcopal, First Presbyterian, St. Joseph's Catholic, St. Mark's Lutheran, St. Paul's Evangelical and the First English Lutheran, while at St. Marys there are the Christian, First Baptist, First Methodist Episcopal, First Presbyterian, Friends, Holy Rosary Catholic, St. Paul's Reformed, United Brethren and Zion's Lutheran. The villages of the county have their full complement of churches and quite a number of flourishing rural churches still are maintained.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY SURVEY.

The field work for the church and community survey of Auglaize county above referred to was supervised by the Rev. C. E. Schmidt, of Wapakoneta, assisted by representatives of the Ohio Federation of Churches, and was completed in March, 1921. The report of this survey sets out that "in some instances church records had not been kept as accurately as they should have been and that fact, coupled with other difficulties, made it impossible to secure complete data. In the main, however, this report fairly presents the conditions in the county." In connection with the community survey it was pointed out that "there are thirteen well defined communities in the county, including Wapakoneta and St. Marys. The people mingle together freely in nine of them. In four there is a noticeable community spirit. It has been developed by co-operative enterprises and the schools. There is a fine spirit of co-operation between farmers and business men in most communities. It is manifested through social life and business dealings. There are, however, several farmers' co-operative organizations through which a large number of farmers do business. Noting that "Wapakoneta and St. Marys, with populations of over 5,000 each, are not included in this report," it is stated that "out of the forty-six Protestant evangelical churches, fifteen are located in villages of over 250 population, thirty-one in the open country or villages of less than 250 population. There is one church on the average of a little less than 403 people. The church development of the county is not recent, only one church having been organized in the past ten years. Most of them have been organized from fifty to sixty years. * * * Forty-six churches own their buildings. The average value of the church buildings is as follows: In villages, \$16,366.66; in open country, \$3,081.43. Fifteen parsonages average in value \$2,986.66. Thirty-one of the church buildings are of the one-room type."

STATISTICS RELATING TO CHURCH SERVICE.

On the subject of finances the report states that "of the forty-two churches reporting on finances, eighteen use the budget system for all monies raised; twelve use single weekly envelopes; four use duplex weekly envelopes; thirty-six meet denominational assessments, and thirty-six, other obligations. Thirteen churches put on an annual 'every member' canvass. Four churches have some debt. The total amount of the budget raised in this county last year (1920) was \$84,652.97. * * * Seven churches, one in the village and six in the open country, received mission aid last year to the amount of \$1,300. The open country churches have received aid for one and four years, respectively; the village church, for one year. The average *per capita* contribution of resident members was \$16.21 for all purposes. * * * The typical dollar of church money is spent as follows: Salary (village), 31.1 cents—(open country), 41.7 cents; benevolences (village), 36.9 cents—(open country), 22.9 cents; all other purposes (village), 32 cents—(open country), 35.4 cents." It then was pointed out that "the total church enrollment for the entire county is 8,586, including Roman Catholics, etc. The Protestant evangelical resident membership is 5,811. The population of the county is 18,553, according to the 1920 census, excluding St. Marys and Wapakoneta. Thus 31.32 per cent. of the inhabitants are resident members of evangelical churches; 13.44 per cent. are members of the unevangelical churches and 55.24 per cent. are not members of any church. According to the reports of the pastors, only 5,222 are reasonably active members of the evangelical churches, or 28.13 per cent. of the population. Making allowance for the children, who are included in the percentage of the population not affiliated with the churches, but are members of the Sunday schools, there is a tremendous percentage of the population of Auglaize county yet to be reached by the gospel. * * * Thirty-three churches in the county have 100 members or less, out of which only nine are growing in membership.

Twenty-three churches have fifty members or less, out of which only seven are growing; five churches have twenty-five members or less, out of which none is making progress. * * * The total gain of all churches last year was 538, or 6.89 per cent. of the net active membership, and the total loss was 254, leaving a net gain for the year of 104, or 1.99 per cent. of the former strength. * * * Fifteen churches experienced a net loss during the past year. Four of them are located in villages and eleven in the open country. Eleven additional churches made an even break, nine of which are open country churches and two village churches. All other churches made a gain. Ten churches gained less than 5 per cent., four between 5 per cent. and 10 per cent. and six over 10 per cent. Of the churches reporting, 56.52 per cent. remained stationary or declined; 43.48 per cent. made a substantial gain."

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Concerning ministerial service, the report sets out that "thirty-two pastors serve the churches of Auglaize county (exclusive of St. Marys and Wapakoneta). Twenty-seven give full time. The remaining five have the following occupations: One farmer, one laborer and three do not state their occupations. Seven churches are pastorless. Thirty-two ministers reporting this item divide their time as follows: Eight serve one church each, two of whom have another occupation; seventeen serve two churches each; six, three churches, and one, four churches. Six churches have full time resident pastors; nine, part time resident pastors; one, resident pastor with other occupation; twenty-three, nonresident, and seven are without pastors. One minister travels thirteen miles to reach his church, one travels fifteen miles; one, twenty miles; and one, twenty-five miles. Of the sixteen churches having resident pastors, full time or part time, eleven were growing in membership; whereas, of the twenty-three churches having nonresident pastors only nine were growing in membership. Of the seven without pastors, not one is making progress.

* * * Figuring the value of a free parsonage at \$250, the salaries of the ministers reporting may be classified as follows: Between \$101 and \$500, three; between \$501 and \$750, two; between \$751 and \$1,000, two; between \$1,001 and \$1,500, thirteen; between \$1,501 and \$2,000, nine; over \$2,000, three. The maximum salary of any minister is \$2,750, the minimum salary, \$250; the average salary, \$1,376.90. Fourteen ministers are college graduates and thirteen are graduates of seminaries or other schools. Forty three of the churches have Sunday schools. In four churches the Sunday school is practically the only activity." It then is pointed out that the total enrollment in the Sunday schools is 5,044, an average enrollment per Sunday school of 116, with a total average attendance of 3,418, or seventy-nine per Sunday school, and it then is observed that "the total enrollment of the Sunday schools is 17.29 per cent. less than the membership of the churches. Two churches attempt to increase Sunday school attendance by rewards, contests and special programs. Only one Sunday school reports any provision for leadership training; seventeen have school picnics and eight, class socials. Only four Sunday schools have classes for preparing Sunday school scholars for church membership, yet during the last year 112 Sunday school scholars joined the church out of a gross increase in church membership of 358. * * * There are thirty-seven organizations for women connected with the churches, such as Ladies' Aid Societies, etc. There are only two organizations for men, none for boys and three for girls. * * * Eleven churches hold eight services per month; two, six services per month; twenty, four services; one, three services; eight, two services, and four have no regular service. * * * In some of the communities there is an occasional union service, although the union meeting is not practiced extensively. Nine churches held protracted meetings last year, varying from fourteen to thirty-five days in length, with a total of thirty-nine converts, thirty-four of whom joined the church. * * * Of the forty-six churches only twenty-seven report any attempt to carry on missionary, edu-



English Lutheran Church, Wapakoneta.



St. Peter's Evangelical Church, New Bremen.



St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Wapakoneta.

cational, social or charitable work. Community service, lecture courses, social, benevolent and devotional work within the community constitute the main activities along this line on the part of the other churches."

The numerous tentative suggestions submitted with this illuminative report of the church and community survey, "with the hope that some of them can be put to good use," conclude with the observation that "the churches of this county should be made the inspiration for everything worth while within the community; the inspiration for better roads, better education, better sanitation, better recreation, better production, better everything that makes more Christlike men. * * * When this county has provided adequate church equipment for every community and competent religious direction for every home, it will have entered upon the road toward the accomplishment of its Christlike task."

SOMETHING REGARDING PIONEER CHURCHES.

The older chronicles have preserved much of interest respecting the beginnings of church activity in the region now comprised within Auglaize county. The activities of the Quaker mission established at the Shawnee village of Wapakoneta have been referred to elsewhere in this volume. Of course, during the pre-settlement period there were visits of other missionaries to the Indians hereabout, for the uplifted Cross generally precedes the Flag. Mrs. Touvelle's interesting little story of St. Marys (1907) has it that "the first religious service held at or near St. Marys (the initial point of settlement here) was held in 1818 under a large tree one half mile south of town on what later came to be the farm of John Armstrong. It was during the negotiations between the Government and the Indians. The Indians were encamped north of where the feeder is. The Government soldiers, two companies, were encamped on the north side of the creek. John Armstrong's cabin was between the camps. (In explanation, it is proper to point out that Armstrong had come up here

from Greenville in June of that year, in advance of the pending treaty conference, and had "squatted" on land that had been cleared by the soldiers at the post there, putting up a cabin which was the nucleus of the comfortable home he later created there.)

"A Moravian missionary named Erwig came to the soldiers and asked for an escort and permission to preach to the Indians. The officers assented and the soldiers went, and with them went Charlie Murray, William McCopsey and Capt. Asa Hinkle, Revolutionary soldiers, several French traders and the Armstrong family, to hear the gospel preached to the Indians. The missionary stood between the Indians and soldiers, the officers stood near by and the traders looked on with shrewd curiosity. The missionary read a chapter in the Bible and sang a hymn and one who was present told me that no heavenly music could ever be sweeter than this almost forgotten sound of sacred song. The missionary prayed and then preached a short sermon. But how to interpret it to the Indians? Anthony Shane, the famous French trader, was there and interpreted—with strange expressions—the simple sermon.

"In 1829 a Methodist campmeeting was held one mile west of St. Marys on the Vinson farm and following this a Methodist class of ten members was formed by the *Rev. J. B. Finley and was called 'St. Marys Mission, Maumee District, Ohio Conference.' The services were held in a log school house at the south end of Perry street. The society was the first religious organization formed in St. Marys and the minister, Rev. J. B. Finley, was the first preacher. The first Methodist church was built in 1843, on the south side of High street. It was a frame building, entered by three steps. The bell was hung on the outside, on the east end of the steps,

* The Rev. James B. Finley's ministrations throughout this region began as those of a missionary to the Indians, principally the Wyandots, and he was appointed a sub-agent of the Government in behalf of these Indians. He wrote a book, "Life Among the Indians," detailing his experiences in this connection, a narrative which gives much interesting information concerning conditions in this part of the state at that time.

and often turned over. The preacher was enclosed in a box pulpit and a railing enclosed the altar. The room was heated by a large iron stove; which stood in the middle of the aisle. The men and boys sat on the east side and the women and girls on the west side. The present church was erected on Wayne street in 1870. The congregation of the St. Paul Evangelical church was organized in 1846 and built a frame church on High street. This congregation suffered during the scourge of cholera in 1849, twenty of the adult members dying within one month. The present brick church was erected on the site of the original one.

"The history of the Catholic church in St. Marys dates from 1846, when Father Zenpent celebrated Mass for the first time here for Thomas Stone, the Geyer, Murray, Black, Whetstone, Delam and Martre families and George Wise and wife. In 1851 the first organization of the Catholic church was made in the house of George Wise on North Perry street. Sabert Scott donated a lot in East St. Marys and the first frame Catholic church was built on it and dedicated by Archbishop Purcell in 1854. The present large brick church was built in 1867."

In connection with the erection of this edifice, it will be timely here to recall that it was built through the efforts of a native son of Auglaize county who later became one of the most distinguished members of the prelacy of the Middle West. The late Rt. Rev. Joseph Dwenger, formerly and for years bishop of the Ft. Wayne (Ind.) diocese, was a native of Auglaize county and ever retained an ardent interest in the affairs of this community. For two years (1862-64) he was the pastor in charge of St. Joseph's parish at Wapakoneta and it is written (*Auglaize County Democrat*, July 15, 1875) that "upon taking charge of St. Joseph's congregation he found its financial standing to be in a most deplorable condition. The interest upon its indebtedness was accumulating so rapidly that its entire property must soon be devoured unless something shortly was done. So Father Joseph (as he then was called) set to work with great energy and financial skill

and funded the indebtedness of the church at once, and in a short time the whole was under control and being rapidly extinguished. From here (Wapakoneta) he went to St. Marys for the purpose of building up not only a healthy congregation but a fine church edifice. He found the congregation there not only numerically but financially weak—the whole of the members collectively not being able to raise money enough to purchase lumber for a new edifice. But this seeming insurmountable difficulty and financial weakness staring him in the face did not cause him to desist from the object in view. He set himself vigorously to work and in a short time, and outside of his flock, raised the sum of \$9,000 for his church. It was completed and stands there today as a monument to his untiring industry. Shortly after leaving St. Marys, Father Joseph was made the bishop of Ft. Wayne. Last year (1874) he formed and led the American Catholic pilgrimage to Rome and return, introducing those under his charge to the Pope and giving the same care to the details of his journey as he did to the smallest affairs at home.”

St. Joseph's Catholic church at Wapakoneta, above alluded to, dates from the missionary visits of the Rev. Fr. Horstman down into this region from his station at Glandorf (in Putnam county) during the early '30s of the past century. Father Horstman visited the Stallo (Minster) colony upon its settlement in 1833 and arranged for the celebration of the Mass there once a month. During his trips to Minster he would stop at Wapakoneta and celebrate the Mass for the few Catholic families who then had settled in that neighborhood, following the departure of the Indians, and in 1839 a small frame church building was erected at the corner of Pearl and Blackhoof streets, to which an addition presently was built, the little parish then being attended as a mission, no resident pastor being assigned until in 1857, when the Rev. Andrew Herbstreit was placed in charge of the parish, and in the next year a substantial brick house of worship was erected and dedicated to the honor of St. Joseph. A parish school had been established some years previously and in 1860 a substantial par-

ochial school building was put up, this serving until supplanted by the present parish school in 1899. In this same year a handsome parish house, just between the church and the school was erected. It was extensively remodeled in the spring of 1922. The old church served its purpose until the growing needs of the parish demanded more adequate accommodations for service and the present imposing church edifice was erected in 1910.

FIRST CHURCH BUILDING IN WAPAKONETA.

The first church building erected in Wapakoneta was the Methodist Episcopal church, which was built in 1834, a frame building which stood on lot 65 on Mechanic street and which was still in service when the county was erected in 1848 and the sessions of court established in the church building pending the time of the erection of a court house, as has been set out elsewhere. It is said that James Elliott, "the most influential member," contributed most of the means for the construction of the church. There must have been something lacking in the interior equipment of the building when it became used as a court room, for it will be recalled that the terms of rental by the county of the church "for the purpose of holding courts for such length of time as they may need it" were based on the expenditure by the county of "such sum as will seat it and erect a pulpit or stand, not to exceed the sum of \$50," as set out in the records of the board of county commissioners. The class of Methodists organized at Wapakoneta in 1834 was constituted as a part of what then was known as the Celina mission circuit, which included classes at Celina, St. Marys, Shanes Crossing, Wilshire and Ft. Amanda and was under the direction of the Rev. Robert Finley, a son of the Rev. James B. Finley, mentioned previously in this review. The records of the church show that the initial membership of this class at Wapakoneta consisted of James Elliott and family, Robert McCullough and wife, Joseph Milnor and wife, Abraham Alspaugh and wife, Mar-

tin Barr and Mr. Gray. The old church building served its purpose until 1863, when the site of the present edifice at the southwest corner of Mechanic and Perry streets (lot 66 O. P.), directly adjoining the lot on which the old church was situated, was secured and a new church was built, this building sufficing the needs of the congregation until 1905, when the present handsome edifice was erected. The parsonage of the church was built in 1888.

The German speaking population of Protestant faith at Wapakoneta effected a temporary organization for public worship in 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected. Two years later the organization was completed, a constitution was adopted, and it was determined to build a church. The membership roll included the following names: John H. Fisher, Paulus Kratt, Heinrich Mueller, Johann Mueller, Johann F. Schubert, Christian Vossler, William Taeusch, Adam Engelhaupt, Frederick Eversmann, Frederick Schlenker, Frederick Speith, George Kutterkunst, Fred Kohler, Gottlieb Machstanz, Manford Warren, J. H. Hassanauer, Christian Koch, F. Geyer and J. F. Katz. The trustees chosen were John F. Fisher and Adam Engelhaupt. The Reverend Duering was the first pastor of this church, serving from the time of its organization until 1855, under the direction of Synod. From 1855 to 1863 the Rev. Heinrich Koenig was the pastor and during his pastorate the congregation grew in numbers and influence. The Rev. J. Sutter was the pastor from 1863 to 1867. Prior to 1867 ministers of this congregation were supplied by a synod, but at this period a number of the Lutheran families withdrew and organized a Lutheran congregation, now known as St. Marks, while the remaining members reorganized as an independent body, with no synodical connection, under the present title of the Evangelical St. Paul's Church. The church site up to the time of the division in the congregation was the west lot of the Union school site, now known as the Williamson school, on Main and Mechanic Streets. In April, 1869, it was determined to build a new church and J. H. Timmermeister, William Taeusch and

Charles Wintzer were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions. Later a building committee composed of William Heinrich, J. H. Timmermeister and Henry Miller was appointed, a site for the proposed new church building and parsonage on Perry, Main and Mechanic streets was purchased and work on the buildings proceeded without delay. The church edifice cost about \$8,000. This building was extensively remodeled and enlarged in 1892 during the pastorate of the Rev. Carl Fritsch. The present (1922) pastor is the Rev. C. E. Schmidt.

The St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran congregation had its birth in 1867, when a number of families of Lutheran faith and practice withdrew from St. Paul's church and organized what is now St. Mark's Lutheran church. When the organization was effected this body had no church building of its own in which to worship, but in 1878 an opportunity was presented to purchase at a very moderate price the unfinished church building on West Auglaize street which had been erected by a few members who had withdrawn from the English Evangelical Lutheran church but who subsequently returned to the mother church. St. Mark's congregation was organized into a corporate body by Professor Lehman, of the Capital University at Columbus and president of the Joint Synod of Ohio, with which body the congregation became affiliated. When first organized the congregation took the name of the St. John's Lutheran church, which presently was changed to St. Mark's. The first pastor was the Rev. G. E. Bucholtz, whose services extended from 1867 to 1871. He was succeeded by the Rev. F. Wendt, who was pastor until 1877. The present pastor of this church is the Rev. George Schultz, who is also pastor of the Lutheran church at Moulton, the two congregations forming one parish.

AN ECHO OF THE DAYS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The organization of the English Evangelical Lutheran church at Wapakoneta was effected in the old Methodist church in that city on Christmas day, 1857. A constitution was adopted this day and signed by the following persons, who thus became charter members of the organization: John Shawber, George Reuch, Joshua Shawber, George H. Dapper, Catherine Reuch, Rebecca Shawber, Catherine W. Hills, Rachel Shawber, Catherine Kuhn and Malinda Elliott. The Rev. A. F. Hills became the first pastor of the church and the board of officers consisted of Joshua Shawber and George H. Dapper, elders, and John Shawber and George Reuch, deacons. In 1859 the matter of erecting a church edifice was considered and favorably acted upon. A building committee consisting of John Shawber, J. H. Sifert and Joshua Shawber was appointed and immediate steps were taken to erect the building at the earliest practical moment. This was in April, 1859. In the following June the congregation suffered a great loss in the death of their beloved pastor, the Rev. A. F. Hills. However, they continued faithful and completed the structure, a substantial brick building on the corner of Blackhoof and Mechanic streets, the site of the present handsome church edifice, in January, 1860. On the 28th of that month the first sermon was preached in the new church by the Rev. W. H. Wynn, who subsequently became a noted educator and scientist. The building was formally dedicated on January 31, 1860, by the Rev. Dr. F. W. Conrad, then of Springfield, Ohio, assisted by the Rev. W. H. Wynn and the Rev. J. W. Goodlin. The last named, who was a very able and popular preacher, served as pastor of the church from April 1, 1860, to April 1, 1861, when he was succeeded by the Rev. W. C. Barnett, who retained the pastorate until 1865, thus serving during the troublesome Civil war period. It was during this pastorate that dissatisfaction and trouble arose in the congregation over the attitude manifested by the pastor in his consideration of the problems of the war, many declar-



St. Augustine's Catholic Church at Minster.

ing his sympathies were with the South. He was asked to resign and this he finally did, determining in the meantime to organize another congregation. This was done and a few families of the church followed their pastor and became members of the new congregation. They bought a lot and commenced the erection of what is now St. Mark's church on West Auglaize street, but before the building was quite completed they decided to abandon the enterprise. As a result the pastor obtained a charge elsewhere and the members returned to the mother church. The Rev. D. W. Smith succeeded Mr. Barnett and he proved to be a most successful pastor and very influential and popular in the community. One of the most successful pastors this church ever has had was the Rev. Ross Stover, who became known far and wide as a singer and director of choruses. He resigned to accept the pastorate of Messiah Lutheran church of Philadelphia. The Rev. Ernest Zimmerman is the present pastor of the English Evangelical Lutheran church.

The organization of the First Presbyterian church of Wapakoneta dates from 1854, in which year a committee of two—the Rev. W. C. Hollyday and Milo Templeton—was appointed by Sidney Presbytery to visit Wapakoneta and, if they found it advisable, to organize a Presbyterian congregation. Accordingly on September 23 of that year this committee visited the village and the Rev. W. C. Hollyday preached a sermon. William Shell, John Musser, Sylvia Bishop and Margaret Walkup presented certificates of membership and James Bishop, J. T. Mitchell, Harriet Mitchell, Jane E. Howe and Jane S. Kelly were admitted upon examination. William Shell was elected and installed as ruling elder and it was resolved that the organization be styled the First Presbyterian Church of Wapakoneta. In the following year John Musser, Mary E. Musser and Lydia Young united with the church and in 1859 James and Sarah Harper and Charlotte E. Trimble entered into church fellowship. By resolution, a call was extended to the Rev. W. G. Hillman to become pastor, to devote one-third of his time to the pastorate and to receive the

moderate sum of \$200 a year in salary. Mr. Hillman accepted the call and became the first pastor of the church. In February, 1860, Probate Judge A. H. Trimble, F. C. Musser and Jane Elliott were received into membership and in April of that year James Harper, John Musser and Judge Trimble were elected ruling elders. The congregation met with a serious loss in the death of Judge Trimble, September 19, 1864. It was in 1862 that the Presbyterians erected their present church edifice on the north side of Main street, west of Blackhoof. At St. Marys a congregation of Presbyterians had been organized as early as 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected.

The last church organization effected in Wapakoneta was that of the United Brethren congregation, which in 1890 built a small church on McMurray street. This church never had a large attendance and some years ago was abandoned. The United Brethren at St. Marys have been organized for about twenty-five years. The Baptist church in that city was organized about 1840 and the German Reformed church there was organized about 1860.

NEIGHBORHOOD ECCLESIASTICAL DISTINCTIONS.

An interesting situation with respect to church development was created upon the organization and settlement of the two German colonies at Minster (then Stallo Town) and New Bremen (then Bremen) in the spring of 1833. The former (Stallo) colony was made up wholly of Catholics and the latter colony (Bremen), of Protestants, holding to the Lutheran faith. This ecclesiastical distinction between the two neighboring towns has been maintained to this day, the Catholics having no organized representation at New Bremen and the Protestants having no organized representation at Minster. In both places when the town sites were platted pending the arrival of the respective colonies, reservations were made on the respective plats for church and school lots, and it was not long after the arrival of the settlers from a foreign

land until both church and school were beginning to exercise their orderly functions, log houses serving at first for the immediate needs of the settlers, church and school being carried on in the same building. The Rev. L. H. Meyer was the pastor in charge upon the organization of the Lutheran church (St. Paul's) at New Bremen and after the settlement had become well established and was recognized as having reached a "going" basis, a capacious frame building was erected for church purposes to supplant the primitive log structure. This edifice served its purpose until in 1888 when a handsome brick church building was erected at a cost of \$25,000. In 1895 this building was destroyed by fire, but the congregation was nothing daunted by the loss and straightway erected on the site the present commodious St. Paul's Lutheran church. As the community grew there presently came to be a sufficient number of those holding to the faith of that branch of the Lutherans organized under the name of the Evangelical church and St. Peter's Evangelical church at New Bremen was erected. A congregation of the Reformed church also came to be organized (Zion's Reformed); later a congregation of the Pentecostal church was organized, and thus New Bremen has its four excellent church organizations, all doing a flourishing work.

As noted above, the new colony at Stallo Town (Minster) was visited by the Rev. Fr. Horstman, who from his station at Glandorf, up in the Ottawa country, was directing Catholic mission enterprises throughout this section of Ohio, when the colony was established in the spring of 1833 and in that same year he established at that point a mission church, which he made arrangements to visit once a month. A log church building, forty by sixty feet and sixteen logs in height was erected for the accommodation of the members of this new parish in the wilderness and so substantially was it constructed and so admirably equipped that it served as church and parish center until 1850, when the foundations for the present spacious St. Augustine's Catholic church at Minster were laid. Father Horstman continued his ministerial attention to the parish

for two or three years, at the end of which time a resident priest was established there, the Rev. Fr. Joseph Brand having been the first resident priest. He was succeeded by others and in 1845 the parish became a charge of the Order of the Most Precious Blood, which also maintains a convent at Minister. The Rev. Fr. Salesius Brunner, the first provincial of this order, was the first priest to take charge under this new arrangement and the order ever since has been in charge. Father Brunner was succeeded by the Rev. Fr. John Vandebroek, under whose direction the present basic portion of St. Augustine's church was erected in 1850. Originally the edifice was 120 feet in length by sixty in width and was erected at a cost of \$15,000. This edifice later, under the direction of the Rev. Fr. Andrew Kunkler, who served as pastor of the church for the long period between 1852 and 1885, was remodeled and extended to its present commodious proportions. Twenty years and more ago, under the pastoral direction of the Rev. Fr. Aloys Malin, the interior of the church was redecorated and completely renovated and overhauled. Originally there was but one tower to this edifice, this rearing from the main entrance, which then faced the east. In the remodeling process, by which an additional twenty feet was added to the length of the church, this tower was removed, the entrance constructed at the west end and the two towering spires erected. At the same time the interior was redecorated, all at a cost of about \$20,000. It was under Father Kunkler's pastorate also that St. Theresa's school building was erected at a cost of \$7,000, which building was used for school purposes until 1896, when the present ample public school building was erected.

In a little book published as a "souvenir" in connection with the ceremonies attendant on the re-dedication of St. Augustine's church (June 2, 1901) following the completion of the extensive work of remodeling that edifice, much valuable information regarding the history of this church is carried, together with portraits of Fr. Kunkler and several of the other pastors of the parish who had notably impressed their person-

alities on that community, as well as of the then wardens of the church, these latter having been John Brandewie, John Albers, George Van Oss, Joseph Busse and Henry Horstman. Concerning the interior of the church, the writer of this interesting "souvenir" of the renovation says: "I do not think the fair critic will not be pleased with what he sees in the 'Minster ceiling.' The architecture of the same, as of the entire interior, is in the free Renaissance style. Prominent girders resting on elaborate pilasters divide the ceiling in five distinct panels. The center panel of course is the principal one and is largely occupied by a picture, 20x15 feet in dimension, representing the glorification of the Holy Trinity. God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost are seen in the distance in all their glory, surrounded by the Blessed Virgin, St. Joseph and the Apostles, while below we behold a congregation of Saints testifying to the greatness of God. Surrounding this painting are four angels singing praises to their Creator. To the right and left in the semicircles are also placed angels, growing out of rich ornamentation and guarding shields, emblazoned with monograms of the Mother of God. Directing our gaze to the east and west of the center panel we find six more pictures of large size representing respectively the Annunciation, the Nativity, Christ in His agony on the Mount of Olives, the Crucifixion, Christ being borne to the Tomb, and the Resurrection. These are masterpieces, surrounded by profuse ornamentation. The predominating color of the ceiling is a mild gold tone. The walls are enriched by pilasters terminating in elaborate capitals, surmounted by an effective freize running the full length of the church. The space above the windows contains rich ornamentation with cross, crosier and emblems of the Pelican, Eye of God, Bee Hive, Censer, Chalice, Ten Commandments, etc. The walls facing the worshiper are adorned with two beautifully impressive pictures—St. Monica praying for the conversion of her son Augustine and St. Augustine meditating upon the greatness of God. The sanctuary is very rich in appearance, the principal feature being a representation of Christ as King of Heaven and Earth—a picture of great beauty. We also perceive in the sanctuary the

emblems of the four Evangelists and emblems pertaining to the Most Holy Eucharist, surmounted by fitting inscriptions."

Quite a number of clergymen were reared in St Augustine's parish, including the Rt. Rev. Bishop Joseph Dwenger, ordained in 1859, of whom further mention is made elsewhere, and the Very Rev. Provincials (C. P. S.) Bernard Austerman, ordained in 1856; Henry Drees, 1862, and Boniface Russ, 1878. Among others of the clergy born or reared at Minster are included the Rev. Frs. Bernard Dickman, ordained in 1862; Bernard Russ, 1879; William Russ, 1882; Charles Meyer, 1885; Thomas Meyer, 1895; Edward Jacob, 1883; Willibald Sleimers, 1889, and Lawrence T. Meyer (S. J.).

THE CHURCH THAT GREW OUT OF THE MUD.

The interesting neighborhood known as "Egypt" in the western part of Jackson township is the center of another Catholic congregation (St. Joseph's), now numbering forty families, who worship in a substantial edifice standing at the cross roads just two miles and a half west of the original Minster section. The story of how "Egypt" came by its name is an interesting one. Mention previously has been made of the execrable character of the roads throughout that section in pioneer days before an effective system of drainage had been devised, and of the swamps which so long and so stubbornly resisted the reclamation efforts of the pioneers. According to the engaging narrative of the Rev. Fr. Thomas Meyer, present pastor of St. Joseph's congregation, a pioneer of the name of Kruse one day jokingly remarked in a crowd that "this place was made of a dab of mud that fell from the wheelbarrow of God when He made the world and therefore it ought to be called 'Egypt.' " And Egypt it ever since has been.

The settlement of that region, even as in other parts of what is now Jackson township, was effected by Catholic families, among these pioneers being the Albers, the Brandewies, the Severings, the Heitkamps, the Siemers, the Knapkes, the

Dormans, the Meierings, the Schmiesings, the Spruckes, the Schilmullers, the Dahlinghauses, the Poeppekmans, the Meyers, the Bergmans, the Griesshops, the Rolfes, the Osterlohs, the Stuckenburgs, the Heitmans, the Voskes, the Wehrmans, the Kuters, the Bornshorsts and the Hoyings. For years these families struggled to keep up their attendance on church services at Minster. It does not now seem far from Egypt to Minster. Stone roads and automobiles are great lesseners of distance. The character of the roads in those days, however, made it impossible for the women and children to attend church during the greater part of the year and the men could only go on horseback, and sometimes only on foot—and a toilsome struggle at that. Even for the summer months there were no proper vehicles for a trip in state to church. A church at Egypt therefore was desirable. Besides this, the old church at Minster no longer properly could accommodate its growing congregation. Then came the time when dissension arose and the Minster church was closed for six or eight weeks on account of some school trouble. Several progressive “Egyptians” got their heads together. Anton Wehrman was building a log house on his place, splitting the clapboards in the woods in which he had made his clearing. By the way, that old log cabin on the Wehrman place ten years ago was torn down (1912) to make way for a handsome, modern cement-block dwelling. Henry Rolfes was helping Mr. Wehrman out with his clapboards. John Osterloh, a neighbor, called on them in the woods at the noon hour. One remarked that it would be a great blessing if they had a little chapel in the neighborhood, so that their wives and children could go to mass occasionally even if only once or twice a month. The suggestion was enthusiastically received and the three men canvassed the neighborhood on the project. It was found that the settlers all were in favor of building a little church at Egypt and a meeting was held in the new log house of the Wehrmans, even before the floors were laid. The three men who had fathered the project, Wehrman, Rolfes and Osterloh, were appointed to consult with Archbishop Pursell, who was announced presently to visit St. John’s. At the appointed

time they laid the proposal before His Grace, who gave his sanction, and steps straightway were taken to make the plan effective. A subscription paper was passed throughout the neighborhood and it was not long until about \$800 was subscribed toward the new church. It was decided to erect an edifice fifty-two feet long and twenty-eight feet wide. Building contractors were called in. Their uniform estimate was \$800, all the money in sight. Henry Rolfes rose to the occasion. "I will build the church for \$300," said he; with the proviso that the congregation furnish the flooring and siding, he to provide all other material. Of course, he got the job, and when the little church was erected there was enough of the \$800 left to pay the priest's salary (\$300) for the first year.

That was in 1852, and until a resident priest presently was secured for the parish the priest came from Minster or Maria Stein every Sunday and twice a week to minister to the spiritual wants of the congregation. The records of this congregation reveal that J. B. Schmiesing was the first child baptised in the new church, J. H. Stricker and Mary Brandewie were the first couple married in the church and the funeral of Anna Mary Knapke, child of two years, was the first funeral conducted from the church. Four years later, in 1856, the convent was erected and a parish house provided for the priest. Since then Egypt has had a resident priest. Father John Wittmer, installed in May of 1856, served until in October, 1873, and was succeeded by Fr. J. B. Birnbaum, who was pastor until in September of 1876. He was followed by Fr. Engelbert Ruff, who in the spring of the following year (1877) was succeeded by Fr. John van den Brock, who served until his death on September 24, 1892, and under whose pastorate the present brick church was erected at a cost of \$5,000, the same being dedicated by the Very Rev. Bernard Austerman on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year in 1878, and the late Very Rev. Provincial Fr. Boniface Russ said the first mass in the new church on the day it was dedicated. In June of 1892, during the final illness of Fr. van den Brock, Fr. Ignatius Selb was appointed pastor of the church and he remained in charge until the summer of 1907.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church at New Bremen.



Public School and M. E. Church at Uniopolis.

It was during this administration that the church received new altars and statues. When Father Selb became enfeebled by old age he was replaced by Fr. Erhard Fritz, who had charge of the congregation till March, 1909, when Fr. Leander Linz was appointed *pro tem*, the latter serving until the present pastor, the Rev. Fr. Thomas Meyer, was appointed and arrived in September, 1909.

St. Joseph's congregation was from the beginning in charge of the Fathers of the Precious Blood and when the convent was erected in 1856 there also was erected a house for the priest and the Brothers, the priest in charge being at the same time pastor of the congregation and chaplain of the Sisters at the convent. When the separation between the male and female members of the Community of the Most Precious Blood took place the male society deeded all the lands and property in Egypt, including the priesthouse, to the Sisters. In 1911 Archbishop Moeller urged the Sisters to sell their land and convent at Egypt. This meant a new priesthouse for the parish and the congregation found little difficulty in raising \$6,000 for that purpose. In 1912 the new parsonage was erected on a vacant lot between the church and the cemetery, the people giving not only freely of their money to this object but also freely of their time and labor in the work of excavating for the parsonage and in hauling material.

OTHER CHURCHES OF THE COUNTY.

It is said that the first church organization effected in Washington township was in 1838, ten years before Auglaize county was erected. This pioneer church was built by the congregation of Germans of the Lutheran faith who had gathered at the settlement then known as Knoxville and stood on the site of the present modern edifice of that congregation in the village of New Knoxville. Out of this movement also arose the congregation of the First Reformed church there. Besides the two churches in New Knoxville here mentioned, the United Brethren maintain two churches in Washington township, one in section 24 and one in section 25. As early as

1844 a local society of the Methodist Episcopal church was organized in what is now the Cridersville neighborhood, services being held in the old log Burk school house until in 1868, when a frame church building was erected on that site. About ten years later this building was moved into the village of Cridersville, where later the present substantial church of the Methodists was erected. In 1875 the United Brethren organized a congregation at Cridersville and in 1896 the Free Methodists established themselves there.

Perhaps the first organized church service held in Logan township was that of the Methodists, who under the direction of the Rev. James B. Finley held meetings at the old block house at Ft. Amanda, out of which grew the society which in 1848 erected a church building on section 24. Later the German Methodists built a church on section 20 and the United Brethren built on section 28. In 1878 the Christian Union church was built in the village of Buckland. In Clay township the Rev. James B. Finley's pioneer circuit also got a start, a society of the Methodist Episcopal church having been organized in the St. John's neighborhood by him as early as 1835 and the Methodists have ever since been a strong force in that community. The Protestant Methodists, the German Lutherans, the Christians and the German Methodists also have organizations in this township.

TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER PREACHER.

In this connection it is but fitting that reference should be made to the work in years past in that community of the Rev. A. J. Frisbie, for many years pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at St. Johns and in whose honor a monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies at Wesley Chapel on June 4, 1922, the money to purchase and erect this memorial having been raised by subscription "from persons who had known the deceased pastor and who in many cases had been converted to a Christian life by his voice and example," as a newspaper account of the ceremony had it. It is narrated that the Rev. A. J. Frisbie "was perhaps the best known min-

ister in Auglaize county for forty years. He came to this county from New York and as early as 1860 he conducted a revival at Wesley Chapel in which almost three hundred persons were converted, and during the progress of which people came from miles around to hear him preach the gospel. His fame spread into adjoining counties and he was reputed to be one of the most effective messengers of the Word in this section of the State. At that time the rule of the church was to change a minister every three years, but Rev. Frisbie's parishioners were so insistent in pleading to have him remain in St. Johns that this rule was changed in respect to this charge. His circuit at that time included Mt. Tabor, New Hampshire, St. Johns and Wesley Chapel. Later, as age came on, his services were confined to St. Johns and it was in this village that he died about 1915. During his lifetime Mr. Frisbie often was heard to express the wish that he might be buried in the graveyard at Wesley Chapel, and it was in accordance with this wish that his remains were laid to rest there. That his pious example and his eloquent sermons have not been forgotten is evidenced by the fact that his former parishioners have contributed so willingly to the purchase of a monument to his memory."

In addition to the Methodist Episcopal church at New Hampshire above referred to, the Baptists also are represented in that village. In Waynesfield there are two churches, the Methodist Protestant and the Baptist, both of which were erected in 1866. The Methodist Protestants effected an organization in this (Wayne) township as early as 1840, when the Hopewell church was organized in section 11. About that same year another church of this same denomination was erected on section 22 and was called the Wallace Fork church. In Pusheta township there also is a church of the Methodist Protestants and the Methodist Episcopal and the Lutherans also are represented there, while in Freyburg village St. John's Catholic church provides ample accommodation for the large Catholic population in that neighborhood. St. John's parish was established in 1848, the year in which Freyburg village was laid out, and in 1877 a substantial parish school also was

built there. At Uniopolis there is a Christian church and a church of the Methodist Protestants, both substantial buildings. In this (Union) township, three miles southeast of Uniopolis, is the historic old Wesley Chapel, to which reference has been made above. It is narrated in an older chronicle that "the first religious society in Union township may be said to have formed by the Rev. James B. Finley, a Methodist itinerant, who preached in the homes of the people, particularly at Charles Lusk's house. The first house of worship was a log building, located three miles southeast of Uniopolis and known as Wesley Chapel. A church known as Poplar Hill church was also a log building. Twenty years later both buildings were replaced by neat edifices. * * * Mt. Look-out Tabernacle, planned by Hugh Lusk, is located on a hill in the eastern part of the township. Services are held in it once or twice a year by the Holiness people." In Moulton township there are five churches, the Catholic church at Glynwood, the Methodist Episcopal and the Lutheran at Moulton, the Oak Grove Christian church and the United Brethren church along the river in section 24. During a tornado which swept over the Moulton neighborhood in the summer of 1920 the Lutheran church in that village was destroyed. It was replaced without delay by a substantial edifice of modern style and construction.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF NEW KNOXVILLE.

In a review prepared for publication in connection with the ceremonies incident to the laying of the corner stone for the extensive addition planned for the commodious First Reformed church at New Knoxville in the summer of 1922, it is pointed out that the beginning of this church dates back to the years 1838-40, but that "by whom and just when this congregation was organized cannot definitely be determined, as no record of the proceedings of this day is available." It is stated, however, that the first service conducted there was under the direction of a visiting minister, the Reverend Jaertin, and that the first regular resident pastor was the Rev.

J. H. Tanke, who served the congregation during 1840-43. In January, 1840, the congregation purchased for \$60 a tract of fifteen acres in the Knoxville settlement and thereon erected a log church building and a log cabin parsonage and established a cemetery. On December 12, 1841, the congregation adopted a constitution which was signed by the Reverend Tanke and forty members, representing as many families. Art. I of this constitution states that "the name of this congregation shall be the First Reformed and Lutheran Church of New Knoxville; therefore, according to the confession of faith, it shall be the German United Reformed and Lutheran Church and freedom of faith, freedom in seeking as to religious truths, shall always be the privilege of all its members."

Two or three years later doctrinal differences arose in the congregation and the Reverend Tanke was obliged to leave, the congregation for sometime thereafter being without a stated pastor but occasionally visited by the Reverend Braasch of Cincinnati. During this period lay services often were conducted by the village schoolmaster, F. H. W. Kuckherman, a young man of devotion and promise, who presently was prevailed upon by his neighbors to devote himself to the ministry. After pursuing a course of theological training at Cincinnati he was licensed to preach in 1847 and in 1852 received his ordination and became installed as pastor of the First Reformed church at New Knoxville. It was thus that the Rev. F. H. W. Kuckherman entered upon his labors in the church at New Knoxville which were to continue for a period of forty years, or until his resignation on account of failing bodily powers in 1890. He continued, however to make his home at New Knoxville, where he died on March 29, 1914, and his funeral was one of the most largely attended ever held in Auglaize county.

It was following the beginning of Mr. Kuckherman's pastorate that the congregation, in 1853, bought a new building site and erected a frame church to supplant the old log structure. Five years later a parsonage was erected which served until the present parsonage was built in 1888. Up to 1874 this congregation had not become affiliated with any ec-

clesiastical body, but the pastor was a member of the Lutheran Synod of Ohio. The majority of the members, however, held to the Reformed faith and in that year it was formally decided to become affiliated with the Reformed Church of the United States. This church thus then became a member of the Heidelberg Classis, then of the Synod of the Northwest, but now a subdivision of the Central Synod, and in that same year became incorporated as such. In 1890 the Rev. A. Schneck was installed to succeed the retiring pastor and he served for two years, to be followed in October, 1892, by the Rev. Moritz Noll, who served until his death, November 2, 1898, and was succeeded by the Rev. J. Bachman, whose failing health compelled his resignation in January, 1910. He moved to Cleveland, where he not long afterward died. In March, 1910, the Rev. Josias Friedli was chosen to succeed Mr. Bachman and he remained until he was elected general secretary of the home mission board of the church and in April, 1915, left to assume his new duties, and was followed by the present pastor, the Rev. L. H. Kunst, of Buffalo, N. Y., who entered upon his pastorate on the Sunday after Easter, 1915, and under whose direction the remodeling and enlargement of the handsome church edifice erected in 1894 is being undertaken. Twenty young men of this congregation have gone forth as pastors, two of them as foreign missionaries.

FRATERNAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

In the report of the church and community survey made in Auglaize county in 1921 and to which reference was made in the opening part of this chapter, stress was laid on some of the social activities of the community, such as clubs and fraternal societies, and their relation to the social life of the community. Recalling that the towns of St. Marys and Wapakoneta are not included in this report, it was set out that "there are eighteen lodges reported, with a total membership of 892. Five own their own buildings. Their chief activities are social. There are three granges, with a membership of 427. One owns its own building. There is also one club re-

ported, with 150 members. The county has a farm bureau, a pomona grange and a county fair association. Their usual relief organizations are centered at Wapakoneta." This latter has reference to the county Red Cross organization, the county public health league, the public nurse and county board of health and the like. In Wapakoneta there is a post of the Grand Army of the Republic, a post of the American Legion, which patriotic organization also is represented in the chief villages of the county, a troop of Boy Scouts, a Masonic lodge, which carries into the chapter and council, and the Order of the Eastern Star; the Knights of Columbus, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, to the encampment degree and the Daughters of Rebekah; the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Knights of Pythias, a band of Girl Scouts, a tent of the Order of the Maccabees and the Lady Maccabees, the Woodmen of the World, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, a lodge of Ben Hur, the Woodmen Circle and a benevolent society known as the Schwabischer Unterstuetzungs Verein.

At St. Marys there also is a post of the Grand Army of the Republic and a post of the American Legion, Freemasons to the chapter and council and the Order of Eastern Star, Odd Fellows to the encampment and the Daughters of Rebekah, Knights of Pythias and Pythian Sisters, the Knights of Columbus, the Loyal Order of Moose, the Fraternal Order of Eagles and the Red Men. In addition to these fraternal organizations there are numerous clubs of one sort and another to give direction to social activities. At Wapakoneta there also is a strong and active Kiwanis Club which is operating quite effectually along the general lines promoted by Kiwanis. Women's clubs are numerous and active. Organized musical activities have been prominent features of the social life of this section from the beginning and some excellent bands and orchestras have been organized from time to time. The Elks band at Wapakoneta, an organization of something more than forty pieces, is now the strongest band in the county, but nearly every community can make up a band on short

notice to fill in on occasions. School orchestras have done much to stimulate the musical tastes and interests of the youth. Probably the oldest continuing woman's club in Auglaize county is the Irving Reading Club which was organized at Wapakoneta in 1888. The Helen Hunt Circle organized in Wapakoneta at a later date is quite an active social and literary club.



In the Days of Indian Occupancy, Wapakoneta in 1831.



Auglaize Street, Wapakoneta, 1922.

CHAPTER XI

TOWNSHIPS, CITIES AND VILLAGES—THE COUNTY SEAT.

The fourteen township divisions of Auglaize county, reading down the map from left to right, are Salem, Noble, St. Marys, German, Jackson Logan, Moulton, Washington, Duchouquet, Pusheta, Union, Clay, Wayne and Goshen, these comprising, according to the J. H. Meyer Atlas of Auglaize County (1917), 384 full sections and parts of ten others, together with about 2,410 acres of Virginia Military lands. The county's total acreage is slightly in excess of 252,000, of which about 240,000 are available for use, the remaining 12,000 acres being occupied by Lake St. Marys (the Grand Reservoir), the Loramie reservoir, the various rivers and streams and its many roads and pikes, which occupy alone more than 4,600 acres. For the purposes of this review these townships will be considered in alphabetical order, excepting the townships of Duchouquet and St. Marys, in which are located respectively the two chief cities of the county, Wapakoneta, the county seat, and the city of St. Marys.

DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY OF WAPAKONETA

Duchouquet township, the largest township in the county, covers approximately forty-two square miles lying in townships 4 and 5, range 6 east, section 31 to 36 of the former township and sections 1 to 36 of the latter township making up the civil division; the township being bordered on the north by Allen county, on the east by Union township, on the south by Pusheta township and on the west by Moulton and Logan townships, with the city of Wapakoneta in the southwest corner and the village of Cridersville on the north line in sections 34 and 35 of township 5. The Auglaize river enters the township in section 12 of the upper township and

flowing southwesterly through Wapakoneta flows out in section 31 of the lower township, and the township is thus thoroughly drained by the natural tributaries, including Blackhoof creek, Quaker run and Two Mile creek and a system of ditches finding outlet in these streams. Four railroads, the Baltimore & Ohio, the Toledo & Ohio Central, the Lake Erie & Western and the Western Ohio electric line traverse the township.

The territory comprised in Duchouquet township was included in the Wapakoneta Indian reservation and lands here were not opened for settlement until after the cession of 1831 by which the Indians gave up their lands and were transported west. In the meantime there had been formed in connection with the trading post and council house at Wapakoneta the nucleus of a white settlement, with a mill, a blacksmith shop, a store and the like, and it was not long after the lands were opened for entry until settlers began to come in and in due time all lands were taken and the work of carving farms out of the forest wilderness well under way. The Government land office prior to that time had been located at Piqua, but upon the removal of the Indians and the opening of the 100-square-mile tract formerly included in their reservation the land office was moved to Wapakoneta, for the convenience of prospective settlers, and the activities centering about that office served as a further stimulus to the settlement of the village. This office was opened on December 26, 1832, and on the first day lands aggregating more than 1,600 acres at and surrounding Wapakoneta were entered, the principal buyers on that day having been James B. Gardner, who was the Government agent acting in the transaction which brought about the cession of the Indian lands; Robert J. Skinner, agent and receiver for the land office; William A. VanHorn, the land office registrar and auctioneer; Jeremiah Ayers, the local inn keeper; Jonathan K. Wilds, Peter Aughenbaugh, Joseph Barnett, Henry Stoddard, Thomas V. Gordon and John Tam.

WAPAKONETA IN THE DAYS OF THE INDIANS.

Regarding the situation in and about Wapakoneta prior to the settlement period opening with the departure of the Indians, Professor Williamson's comprehensive review has it that "from 1820 to 1833 Wapakoneta contained but few people who had been accustomed to mingle in the circles of white society. The adventurers who came here to barter with the Indians were persons destitute of character and indulged in all the vices of corrupt society. Drinking and gambling were inseparably connected with business and amusements of all kinds. Nearly every trader dealt in whisky. The order from the War Department prohibiting the sale of liquors to the Indians was not observed. The VanBlaricomes and others made money enough by secretly selling whisky to the Indians to enter farms for themselves. During the dry periods of summer and fall, wagon trains destined to points in the Maumee valley were of every day occurrence. Gaston Garde, an enterprising dealer in flour and salt, shipped large consignments to Wapakoneta, where they were loaded on pirogues and scows, manned by Indians, and floated down the Auglaize river to Defiance. If the boats grounded on the sand bars or other obstructions the Indians were ready to jump into the river and buoy them over." Other details of this pre-settlement period are set out in the chapter relating to the days of early settlement of the county.

TRADITIONS CONCERNING PLACE NAME

Regarding the name Wapakoneta, there are several local traditions, one of which is to the effect that the name is a combination of the masculine and the feminine, merging the names of an old Indian chief, whom the adherents to this tradition claim simply to have been Wapaugh, and that of his squaw, who they say was Koneta. Some even will go so far as to point out the stump of a great elm down along the riverside, which they say marks the site of the identical elm

tree under which the Chief Wapaugh and the "Princess" Koneta were married. Perhaps it fairly may be assumed that no one who has written on the subject was better informed regarding the affairs of the Shawnees than was Henry Harvey, the superintendent of the Quaker mission at Wapakoneta during the later years of the Indian occupancy there. He makes no reference in his book to such a tradition, his story having it that the place was called in honor of "an ancient and distinguished woman of that name." His spelling is Wapaughkonnetta. This spelling also is followed by Col. John Johnston, United States commissioner and Indian agent, in his official reports concerning the Indians at this point. Johnston had it that the village was named for a club-footed chief of that name. Hodge's "Handbook of American Indians" (Bulletin 30 of the Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution) has it that Wapakoneta means "white jacket." The Miami name was Wapakonakunge ("where Wapakoneta lived"). The Western Gazetteer (1817) spelled the name Wappaukenata. In one of General Harrison's official reports (1814) the name is spelled Wapauckanata. There are other variations in old books and official documents relating to the days of Indian occupancy.

In the text of the treaty creating the Wapakoneta Indian reservation the name of the village is spelled Wapaghkonnetta, while in the legislative enabling act creating Auglaize county and providing for the establishment of the county seat it is spelled Wapaukonnetta, which spelling had been adopted by the early newspapers at Lima. In the first records of the commissioners of Mercer county it is spelled Wapaughkonnetta. Apparently by common consent, or at least by usage, the present attractive form of the euphonious name was generally adopted hereabout by the time the town became the county seat, for it is so styled in the first records of the county and when the first newspaper was published there that form was used by the paper and there has been no variation since. Some stylists insist that Wapakoneta be pronounced with the e long, though usage generally renders it

short, which latter form would seem to have been the original, as the invariable use of the double t in the old documents would indicate. W. C. Davis, former postmaster at Wapakoneta, says that one month he kept a record of the variations of the spelling of the name on letters reaching the office and that these were no fewer than forty. That ever has been the trouble with most of the place names taken over from the Indians by a people whose vocal organs were not adjusted to a proper pronunciation of these names and whose attempts at phonetic spelling of the same have resulted in such variations as here are noted in connection with the old Indian village at the headwaters of the Auglaize. But why bother with Shawnee etymology? As General Pratt, of Carlisle Indian School fame, once wrote in a communication along this line: "The subject has not specially interested me, for the reason that, in my experience, not one in twenty of the Indian names in use could be recognized by any member of the tribe from which the name was derived. The attempts to perpetuate such names are therefore only sentimental abortions."

RELICS OF THE ABORIGINALS.

Concerning the tradition that Chief Wapakoneta was club-footed and that from this infirmity his name was derived, there is an oddly shaped stone in the Herrmann collection of Indian relics, now preserved in the museum cabinet at the high school building at Wapakoneta, which is claimed to have been the very last over which old Wapakoneta's ungainly moccasins were fashioned. There are many stones of strange shape, to which most any sort of a story might become attached, but there is something about the shape of the "Wapakoneta last" and the fact that it seems rather to have been artificially fashioned into its present form than to have been shaped as ordinary stones are by erosion, that keeps firm the faith of those who adhere to this tradition and adds a certain additional value to the not overly well kept collection of relics which some time ago was turned over to the

school because it seemed that there no longer was room for it in the court house, where it formerly was kept.

This region is, of course, rich in Indian relics, arrow heads and the like, and thousands of them have been picked up in all the years since the white man has been in possession here. There are quite a number of interesting and in some instances valuable private collections of this sort in the homes of this county, but apparently no effort ever has been made to make a real archaeological survey with a view to bringing together the best of these and making proper provision for their public preservation and exhibition. Unhappily, very many of the best and most valuable of these relics have been taken from Auglaize county forever. Years ago, when the "fad" for collecting such relics of Indian occupancy was at its height, collectors went about over the county calling on the farm boys to see what they had in the way of arrow heads and the like and by the crafty offer of nickles and dimes and quarters gained from these boyish hoards the articles that possessed real value to collectors and archaeologists, with the result that perhaps many a private or public museum elsewhere is now enriched by relics that ought to be on display here.

THE MAN FOR WHOM TOWNSHIP WAS NAMED.

Concerning Francis Duchouquet, the trader, whose post at Wapakoneta was the center of the fur trade hereabouts in Indian days and in whose honor this township bears its name, it is narrated in the older chronicles that he was the son of a half-breed French trader who was engaged in trade with the Indians of what is now northwestern Ohio and lower Michigan during the time of the occupancy of this region by the French. Francis Duchouquet is said to have been born in the vicinity of Presque Isle in 1751 and grew up to the fur trade, in which trade he visited all the tribes throughout this section of the then Northwest Territory. On one of his trips among the Shawnees then occupying the Mad river country he married a Shawnee girl and was living with the Indians

on the Mad river in the region now comprised in Clark and Greene counties when the aborigines there were dispersed by Gen. George Rogers Clark's expedition, coming thence with the scattered tribe up here and finding refuge with the friendly tribe which long before had established its headquarters or chillicothe at the head of navigation on the Auglaize at Wapakoneta.

Duchouquet established his home and trading house on the right bank of the river at a point just about where the west bridge now crosses the river at what for many years has been known as the Neff place and where by agreement he eventually came into possession of a considerable tract of land in what now is section 29 of the township which bears his name and a part of which tract is now included within the city limits of Wapakoneta, the title to portions of this tract still being held by his descendants. It is significant that in the treaty of 1831 by which the Indians here ceded their lands to the Government, Duchouquet's right and title to this land was perpetuated under the terms of Art. 11 of that convention, which set out that "it is understood by the present contracting parties that any claims which Francis Duchouquet may have under former treaties to a section or any quantity of the lands herein ceded to the United States are not to be prejudiced by the present compact, but to remain as valid as before."

It is stated that Duchouquet's time "was so engrossed with business that he did not participate in the wars of western Ohio, further than to act as interpreter on important occasions." It further is narrated that in early life he became addicted to the drink habit, "which grew upon him to such an extent that in his later days he drank to excess," and that "at such times he frequently amused himself by shooting at a mark. The few citizens of the village generally gave him a wide berth on such occasions." It seems a bit ironical to observe that at the final treaty here, when the last reservation of the Shawnees was ceded to the Government, Duchouquet "became intoxicated at the opening of the negotia-

casion." When in December, 1831, the delegation of Indians tions and did not serve as interpreter on that important occasion in the death of the latter. According to one of the writers left Wapakoneta for Washington seeking better terms than had been granted in the convention, Duchouquet went along as an interpreter, but at Cumberland was taken ill and there died and was buried before his companions again reached the place on their return from Washington, as is set out elsewhere.

A TALE OF DUCHOUQUET'S BRAVERY.

It is narrated that while on a trading expedition with the Indians up in the Sandusky country in 1782 Duchouquet was present at and witnessed the horrid torture and death at the stake of Colonel Crawford and that he joined in an ineffectual intercession to save the life of the colonel. At any rate, it is pointed out, Duchouquet's description of that horrible scene agreed in every respect with the one given to the Government as an official report by Doctor Knight, who was Crawford's companion on the expedition which resulted of the earlier days who assembled a good deal of matter relating to the Indians of this region, Duchouquet "was never known, on any occasion, to participate in any of the savage cruelties practiced by the Indians on their captives. Although so closely related by blood to the Indians, his sympathies were always with the captive and wherever possible he rendered assistance. As an example of his many noble acts we cite the case of Charles Johnston, who was captured on the Ohio river in 1790 and taken to the upper Sandusky. At Sandusky, Johnston became acquainted with Duchouquet, who was engaged in the purchase of furs. To him he recounted his adventures and earnestly solicited his good offices in delivering him from the Indians. Duchouquet promptly assured him that every exertion should be used for that purpose and lost no time in redeeming his pledge. That evening he spoke to Chickatommo and offered a liberal ransom for the prisoner, but his efforts were fruitless. The Shawnee chief did not object to

the price, but declared that no sum would induce him to give up the prisoner until they first had taken him to their towns. Soon afterward the Shawnee party engaged in a drinking bout. When their hearts were somewhat mellowed by rum Duchouquet repeated his offer and was again peremptorily refused.

“Duchouquet then inquired the name of the town to which he was to be taken and the fate which was in reserve for him upon his arrival there. To the first question Chickatommo promptly replied that the prisoner was to be carried to the Miami villages, but to the second he gave no satisfactory answer. The mention of the Miami villages extinguished every spark of hope which still existed in Johnston’s breast, as those towns had heretofore been the grave of every white prisoner who had been taken into them. At this juncture fortune favored him. A Wyandot trader appeared with several horses laden with kegs of rum and in the course of two days completely stripped the Indians of every skin, blanket and article of merchandise possessed by them. On the morning of the third day Chickatommo and his party awoke as from a dream and found themselves destitute, ragged and poor. Ashamed of their condition, they appeared before Duchouquet and declared that the scalp of the prisoner could be transported more easily than his person, but, if he still wished to purchase him, they would forego the expected entertainment of burning and scalping the prisoner and would let him have the captive upon good terms. Duchouquet eagerly accepted the offer and instantly counted down 600 silver brooches, the ordinary price of a prisoner. The Indians lost no time in delivering Johnston into the trader’s hands and the two lost no time in setting out for the Ohio river. After exposure to numerous dangers Johnston and Duchouquet succeeded in reaching the lower Sandusky, from which point by the aid of traders Johnston was able to make his way safely south.”

When the Indian tribes of Ohio and Indiana began to assemble at Greenville in the fall of 1795 Duchouquet was

summoned to act as one of the interpreters during the negotiations. He was again called in 1817 to serve as interpreter in the treaty made at the rapids of the Maumee. In the year following (1818) he for the third time served as interpreter, at the treaties made at St. Marys, and thereafter was similarly employed when occasion arose, it being apparent from the frequency and character of such employment that he must have possessed superior ability as a translator of the Indian tongue. Duchouquet's residence on the north bank of the river at the Indian village at Wapakoneta became a house of entertainment at which it is said traveling traders and explorers always were sure of accommodations. His store and warehouse were located at the wharf in front of his house. At the close of the fur season his peltries were stored on pirogues and floated down to the mouth of the Auglaize, where they either were sold to traders at that point or reshipped to Detroit, where they were sold for cash or traded for goods. The goods, if bought at Detroit, were carried on vessels to the mouth of the Auglaize whence they were transported on pack horses to Wapakoneta.

OLD QUAKER MISSION HOUSE AND MILL.

The operations of the Quaker mission at Wapakoneta Indian village from 1819 on to the time of the departure of the Indians has been referred to elsewhere. This mission maintained a grist mill, a saw mill, a blacksmith shop and other accommodations for the benefit of the redmen, the mills occupying a site alongside the left bank of the river at a point just at the rear of the present Masonic hall building on Auglaize street, a race extending from a dam at a point across the river at the bend in the vicinity of the present electric light and pump house supplying the power for the mills. Portions of the frames of these old mills still were in evidence as late as ten years ago.

As early as 1816 George C. Johnston, the trader, of whom a considerable account has been given elsewhere in this work,

established a trading post at Wapakoneta, under a Government license, and operated there for some years, his post having been situated on the site now occupied by the wheel works in the vicinity of the B. & O. railway station. Before Johnston's time, along about 1815, Peter Hammel, a French trader, had come down here from Canada and put up a log building along the river trail at a point about what now is the middle of the block on the south side of Auglaize street between Perry and Blackhoof streets, Lot 12 of the original plat. Hammel carried a pretty general stock of goods and long remained on the scene, his store becoming the center of trading activities among the early settlers of this region. In 1816, the year following his arrival here, Hammel married Francis Duchouquet's daughter. To this union, it is narrated, four children were born, Pamelia, who in 1839 married Joseph Neff; Theresa, who in 1842 married William Craft, and a son and daughter who died in youth. Hammel made his home with Duchouquet until the latter's death and came into a considerable piece of property following that event, the farm afterwards and still known as the Neff place just northwest of the city, now owned by Michael Hauss.

THE PLATTING OF THE TOWNSITE.

Following the departure of the Indians in 1832 the old Indian village came under the complete control of the whites and during the succeeding winter it became apparent that there would be a sufficient number of incoming settlers at that point to make a town out of it. Taking time by the forelock, three forehanded landowners on the spot got together and decided to have a town site platted. These men were Peter Aughenbaugh, Jonathan K. Wilds and Joseph Barnett, who have been mentioned above as among the first land buyers on the site, who secured the services of John Jackson, then surveyor of Allen county (it being remembered that this region then was comprised within Allen county), who on January 22 and 23 surveyed and platted the Wapakoneta town

site, the original plat of which was acknowledged before a notary at Dayton on January 25, 1833. This plat, on file in the county recorder's office, reveals a platted tract of thirty-one blocks, the lot numbers running from No. 1 in the northeast corner of the tract to No. 90 in the southwest corner, the north line of the same being named Auglaize street and the south line Pearl street, with alleys sixteen and one-half feet between the blocks. Main street was laid out south of Auglaize street and between this and Pearl is Mechanic street. The east line of the original plat is Park street; west of that, Willipie street, between which and the next street, Perry, is an unplatted square, lying between Main and Mechanic streets, reserved for public uses (present city hall site), and west of Perry is Blackhoof street, beyond which is Logan street, the west line of the original plat. And it was thus that Wapakoneta got its formal, civil start. As the population grew and as the needs for expansion became apparent additions were made to this original plat until now (1922) the town plat covers all of section 29, three-fourths of section 32, the northeast quarter of section 31 and a fraction of sections 28 and 33 of Duchouquet township.

In order to preserve a proper perspective of the situation there along the river at the site of the old Indian village when the above plat was drawn, it must be remembered that the only cleared ground in Wapakoneta at that time was a strip perhaps three hundred feet in width extending from about where Court street now intersects Auglaize up to a point about where the Baltimore & Ohio railway tracks cross the latter street. The old Quaker mission building at that time was occupied by Capt. John Elliott, who had been serving as the Government blacksmith for the Indians, and was later occupied by his son, James Elliott, who for many years was one of the forceful figures in the formative period of the town.

THE COMING OF THE FIRST WAYSIDE INN.

In 1831, the year in which the Indians ceded their lands away, Jeremiah Ayers, an enterprising individual, settled here and put up a cabin on the trail (now Auglaize street) at the point now occupied by the Central hotel (lot 8 of the original plat) and began to take an active part in development work. In the spring of 1832 he moved this cabin back to the rear of his little tract and facing the trail erected a two-story frame building after the style of the old wayside inns with an overhanging porch facing the street and ample space for the stage coaches to discharge their passengers, in the rear being a yard and shed for the accommodation of the stage horses and the horses of travelers coming this way. With additions and improvements made from time to time this old hotel, the Wapakoneta House, served as the principal public house in the village until its destruction by fire in 1866, and there are still quite a number of persons living here who retain agreeable childish memories of the stirring scenes about the old inn's courtyard following the arrival of the stage or the post riders. The old Wapakoneta House was the local terminus of the St. Marys-Wapakoneta stage line, the old Dieker House at St. Marys serving as a similar terminal at the latter point, while from Lima on the north and Sidney on the south the stages were also discharging their traffic at the hospitable doors of Mine Host Ayers.

This was on the line of travel from the East on to Ft. Wayne and beyond and many a person high in the councils of the nation was a guest of the old Wapakoneta House in those days. The stage drivers were a hardy and adventurous lot and bad weather and worse roads were all a part of the day's job for them, the stage having to go on schedule whether or no, and their plunging four-in-hand teams, or eight if roads were worse than usual, would be brought to a stop with a fine flourish, preceded by the awaited loud winding of the stage horn heard far down the road upon the approach of the stage. When the plank road was built in the

'50s the clatter of the hoofs of the galloping horses and the deep rumble of the heavy wheels of the stage along this causeway could be heard for miles on a clear, frosty morning. While in rural districts local interest still centers in the arrival and departure of railway trains, it is believed that no such intensity of interest is displayed as that which probably attended the coming of the old stage in the days which preceded the **coming of the railways.**

Jeremiah Ayers was also active in other lines. He became one of the chief owners of town lots at Wapakoneta, bought the old mission mill, which he restored to activity, and in 1834 erected a distillery at a point along the river about where the city electric light and power house now stands. It is narrated that this distillery produced the greater part of the whisky that was consumed in this section up to about 1860, and from all accounts of the times this was no small quantity. It is recorded that "for nearly thirty years Ayers was the most enterprising citizen of the village." He died in 1868. A son, Herman Ayers, and a daughter, Mrs. Irene Wilson, survive, and are now residents of Sidney.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT.

When Robert J. Skinner, receiver for the land office, located at Wapakoneta in 1832 he occupied the house that formerly had been occupied by Captain Elliott, the Government blacksmith, who had taken over for household occupancy the old Quaker mission house, and William A. VanHorn, the registrar of the land office, occupied the old Indian council house, which stood at about where now is the northeast corner of the original plat, Park and Auglaize streets. This building is said to have been made of logs and was about thirty feet in width and forty in length. The Indians had given it a bark roof, but when VanHorn took it over he had it covered with clapboards and otherwise rendered it more comfortably habitable, presently adding to it a small addition built of brick when the brick kiln in good time was started

going. It is narrated that adjacent to this VanHorn place was a log stable standing in a corner of a field inclosed with a rail and brush fence, in which field VanHorn fed the ponies when they came in from the woods range. This narrative goes on to say that "there was quite a rivalry between James Elliott and VanHorn in appropriating the ponies left ranging in the forest by the Indians when they moved to Kansas. As soon as a pony was captured it was branded with V or E, the initial letter representing the party who had captured it. The ponies had to be trained before they were of much value to their owners. When 'broken to work' they performed good service in the country where beasts of burden were scarce."

It was in that same vicinity, adjacent to the old council house and extending south to about what is now Main street, that the Indians had their chief burial ground. After the manner of Indians, before leaving for the west, they carefully leveled all the mounds marking the graves of those buried there, as they did in all the other cemeteries throughout their reservation. When the town began to be built up hardly a cellar was constructed in that section of the city that did not uncover skeletons of the aboriginals, while during the laying of water, sewer and gas mains numerous other skeletons have been turned up in that section of the city. Some of these were found in coffins made of walnut puncheons, nailed with wrought iron handmade nails, indicating interment after the Quakers had established their mission here, for Mr. Harvey, it is narrated, insisted on the Indians adopting Christian methods of burial after he took charge of the Wapakoneta station.

There were other burial grounds hereabout, one in what is now the western part of the city having been regarded as the probable burial place of the Indian scout Logan, formerly referred to, as this good friend of the whites had his habitation there. On the hill west of the Pusheta on the north side of the St. Marys-Wapakoneta road was another, while in various parts of the county, particularly in the St. Johns neighborhood where old Chief Blackhoof lived, skeletons have

been turned up from time to time in excavation and gravel-pit workings, occasionally with these aboriginal relics being found beads and other articles of adornment affected by the Indians. At what is now the northeast corner of Auglaize and Blackhoof streets, Lot 16 O. P., there was an Indian cabin which was said to have been the abode of the good chief Wayweleapy (Willipie), who at the age of eighty years accompanied his people to Kansas and died there four years later. Concerning old Chief Willipie, an older review has it that "for depth of reasoning and sublime diction, no chief ranked higher in the councils of the Shawnees than did Wayweleapy," as has been set out in an earlier chapter.

REMAINS OF OLD FORT AUGLAIZE.

At this time of the beginning of orderly white settlement at Wapakoneta there still were remaining some of the timbers of old Ft. Auglaize, the stockade erected by the French traders in 1784, on the right bank of the river on the bluff overlooking what then was regarded as the head of navigation on the Auglaize around the bend of the river about where the old cemetery is. This fort, which was abandoned after the battle of Fallen Timbers, was a stockade inclosing about an acre of ground and served as a protection to the storehouses erected within the enclosure by the traders, and from this point there was long carried on extensive trade with the Indians throughout this section, goods being brought up the river from the French posts to the north. During the War of 1812 the site of the Indian village at Wapakoneta was the scene of considerable activity, this having been a sort of a cross roads of the military trails from Cincinnati up through Piqua to Defiance and from Franklinton through Ft. McArthur and on to Ft. St. Marys, and what is now beautiful Greenlawn cemetery just on the western edge of the city was a common camping ground for marching and countermarching troops, a good spring located between the camping ground and the present site of the county fair grounds furnishing the troops with an

abundance of fresh water. It is recorded that in the spring of 1813 a log house was erected at this camping ground to be used as a storage house and officers' quarters and that General Harrison was a not infrequent visitor at that point during the progress of his campaign throughout northwestern Ohio. On the hill just west of the mouth of Pusheta creek barracks were erected for the use of the troops stationed there, it being the duty of this company "to watch the movements of the Shawnees and to intercept British emissaries and renegade Indians from the savage tribes of the north and west." It also was used as a depository of goods and provisions for the armies on the Maumee. Thus it will be seen that there had been a good deal going on in and around the site of the present city during the pre-settlement period.

THE INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE.

Gradually settlers were attracted to the scene by the promise of a growing settlement here at the stage cross roads and it was not long until quite a village had sprung up in the clearing which slowly was extended to make way for this expansion. Isaac Nichols, a veteran of the War of 1812, built a frame store building on the lot just east of the Wapakoneta House and in 1834 another inn was put up, this being operated by H. B. Thorn. In this latter year the villagers recognized the necessity of a jail and a small frame structure eighteen feet square was put up for this purpose. It has been written that "criminals confined in it were handcuffed and chained as a precaution to prevent escape." This apparently served as a calaboose until the county erected a jail, as set out in the chapter on county government.

Village growth continued until when Auglaize county was set off as a separate civic entity in 1848 Wapakoneta very properly regarded itself as having attained county seat dimensions and secured the establishment of the county seat, a story which has been told elsewhere.

In the spring following this elevation to the position of county town the village sought from the Legislature a right to incorporate as "a town corporate" and this right was accorded by an act of March 2, 1849, by which it was enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio "that the territory included within the original town plat of the town of Wapakoneta, in the county of Auglaize, and the additions that have been made or may hereafter be made thereto, and as much of the territory as is embraced within the south half of section 29 and the north half of section 32, of township No. 5 south of range No. 6 east, shall be and the same is hereby declared a town corporate with perpetual succession, and as such shall be entitled to all the privileges and subject to all limitations of an act for the regulation of incorporated towns passed February 16, 1839, and the acts amendatory thereto." Section 3 of this act provided that "the town council of the town of Wapakoneta be and is hereby fully authorized to assume payment of the remaining installments due the commissioners of Auglaize county for public building purposes, as provided for in the act organizing said county passed on the 14th of February, 1848." And thus the town assumed an obligation which certain of its citizens had assumed under bond when the county seat was established, the story of which has been told elsewhere in connection with the acts of the first board of county commissioners.

LITTLE NEED OF COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGES.

From contemporary evidence on the subject it is apparent that though its citizens were ambitious, Wapakoneta still was not far out of its forest hamlet state when it became the county seat. A review carried in Robert Sutton's atlas of Auglaize county published in 1880 and based on the testimony of persons then living who were living here in 1849, sets out that "at the period of incorporation the town was still without any material improvement worth the name of enterprise, save in the erection of residences and opening of small retail stores and shops. The trade for five years was of a purely local

character, as the town had no commercial facilities and even had little need of commercial advantages as far as exportation was concerned. The town, like the country by which it was surrounded, was almost a swamp, for even years after the construction of the railroad gravel was as unknown to the streets as brick to the sidewalks and crossings. The streets consisted more in open public ways than in convenient thoroughfares. Walks and crossings consisted largely of cordwood thrown closely enough to afford a stepping across the mud, except when the blocks were submerged, which was not infrequent.

"The whole vicinity of the public square [the court house formerly stood at the southwest corner of Blackhoof and Mechanic streets], extending about the court house and out to Auglaize street, afforded a swimming pond during the summer and a skating and coasting park for the boys during the winter. Slowly the village grew until the erection of the county in 1848, when it became the county seat, and perhaps the only enterprise springing directly from this step was the establishment of *The Auglaize Republican*, a Democratic paper, by W. P. Andrews in 1849. It was nearly ten years later that trade received an impetus and enterprise received a stimulus by the construction of the Dayton & Michigan railroad (present B. & O.), which marked the dawn of a new era for the town. Immediately followed the erection of a large grain warehouse by the railroad company, which was supplemented by another built in 1860 by J. C. Bothe. Here was the real dawn of business growth and activity, for enterprise followed rapidly in the wake of enterprise, until within a few years the town had attained its present [1880] standing."

THE SUCCESSION IN THE MAYOR'S CHAIR.

The first mayor of the new town at the site of the old Indian village, following the incorporation of Wapakoneta in 1849, was George W. Andrews, a lawyer, who also was editor of the newspaper that was started there by his brother,

William P. Andrews, in that year. Andrews was succeeded by C. W. Cowan and he in 1853 by J. S. Williams, who was followed by I. F. Coples, who resigned before the expiration of his term of office, Sabirt Scott being appointed to take his place. Mr. Andrews again was elected and in 1857 was succeeded by A. H. Trimble and he by W. V. M. Layton, who was succeeded by Henry B. Kelly, who had bought the local newspaper and had changed the name of the same to the *Democrat* and who was serving as mayor when the Civil war broke out. In 1862 B. G. Devore was elected mayor and in the next year was succeeded by S. B. Ayers, who was followed by Edward Meyer, who was serving when the war came to a close. Devore was again elected in 1865 and was followed by Kelly, elected for another term, who was succeeded by J. D. Marshall and he by W. V. M. Layton for another term, after which Kelly was again elected and was serving his third term when he sold his newspaper in 1874 and resigned his office, leaving town for another field. Kelly was succeeded as mayor by William Miles, who was succeeded by Capt. Robert McMurray, a lawyer and editor of the *Democrat*, who died in office in 1876 and was succeeded by H. Moser, the latter being followed in turn by Levi Hamaker, Samuel Bitler, A. M. Kuhn, John Hassenier, C. A. Stueve, T. J. Cartmell, J. G. Wisener, J. J. Connaughton, J. G. Heinrich, F. W. Freyman, H. C. Wentz and George W. Hassenier, the latter of whom in 1910 was succeeded by T. J. Cartmell, elected for another term. J. J. Hay then served from 1912 to 1916 and was followed by Fred A. Klipfel, who served one term and was succeeded by Elmer E. Newcomer. In 1921 Fred A. Klipfel was re-elected mayor and is thus the present (1922) incumbent in that executive office, his administration beginning on January 1, 1922, for a period of two years.

The other members of the city administration are as follows: President of council, Newman McK. Metz; councilmen at large, Henry Knost, William Hastings and Arnold Yaggi; First ward, A. F. Schneider; Second ward, Otto Buchanan; Third ward, Joseph B. Miller; Fourth ward, Frank

Budde; city auditor; Fred Nester; treasurer, Ditmore Spees; clerk of council, Rue P. Melching; chief of fire department, Oscar R. Vorhees; chief of police, James C. Ague; safety director, William Zint; service director, Howard B. Benner; street commissioner, Wilson Howard; superintendent light and water plant, Harry Nagle; clerk water and light department, Gilbert Kiefer; city solicitor, Frank P. Connaughton; health commissioner, Dr. Carl L. Mueller; board of health, Mayor Klipfel presiding and J. F. Moser, Carl D. Fischer, Dr. J. L. Goetz, Henry Woehler and Jacob Luginbuhl; board of education, Edward Trau (president), Jacob T. Koenig, Carl D. Fischer, Theo H. Tangeman, Emil H. Moser and Superintendent C. C. Nardin (clerk of board).

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. ROBERT M'MURRAY.

It was along in the middle '70s under the efficient executive direction of Robert McMurray, then mayor of the city, that Wapakoneta began to grope its way "out of the woods." Captain McMurray, a lawyer who had been an officer in the Union army during the Civil war, was also editor of the *Democrat* and a man of admirable administrative and executive capacity. When he entered the office of the *Democrat* not long after his return from the army, he found Wapakoneta little more than a typical "backwoods" town, the streets grown over with dog fennel and smartweed, cattle and hogs running freely at large through the streets and a condition generally indicative of a civic lassitude that was far from promising. That was in the days of the "big timber" and the town was full of timbermen from the neighboring saw mills and lumber camps, a pretty rough set—as all who recall the days of the lumber camps will agree. There were of course the concomitants of gambling and worse, and the saloon seemed the dominant influence in the town. The state of apparent lawlessness thus engendered naturally was retarding the development of the county seat along all lines. Captain McMurray's attitude toward these things—for he was fighting

them with both voice and pen—presently pointed to him as the apparently logical corrective and the self-respecting elements of the town persuaded him to become a candidate for the office of mayor, promising to help him to “clean up.” In a bitterly contested campaign in which he was opposed with all the cunning and guile of the forces that were retarding the development of the town he was elected.

Upon entering the office of mayor, Captain McMurray announced his program in terms that could be understood by all. He reorganized the police department and started in to clean up, with the result that his very life not infrequently was threatened. His friends stood manfully behind him, however, and it was not long until results became apparent. The saloons and gambling houses were forced to pay some regard to the tenets of decency, the dog fennel was eradicated from the streets, pig stys were banished from the corporate limits, roaming cattle were coralled, streets and sidewalks were given more attention than they ever before had received and a program of general civic betterment was inaugurated. After a year or two of this sort of municipal housecleaning even many of the former offenders began to recognize the benefits of the Captain’s program and joined in the spirit of the campaign for a better and brighter town. The county seat was emerging from the back woods.

Unhappily, Captain McMurray’s program was interrupted by his death in the very prime of his useful and unselfish life, but the good work that he had instituted was bearing fruits apparent to all and his successors in office maintained something of the same spirit, so that the curb placed by him upon the elements that had been retarding the town never thereafter was wholly relaxed. In any review of the development of the county seat of Auglaize county, the memory of Capt. Robert McMurray should be kept in mind. He awakened the civic consciousness of the people of the county seat as no one before him had done and the beneficent influence thus exerted is a continuing one not only in that immediate community but throughout the county.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

With the coming of the railroad in 1858 commercial affairs at Wapakoneta, took on new impetus and this was reflected throughout the county and particularly throughout Duchouquet township. Prior to that time the local saw mills, grist mills, tannery, distillery, blacksmith shops and wagon shops were about all that were required to keep pace with the industrial demands of the people and there was little opportunity for expansion. Not long after the railroad came the Civil war broke out and this served as a setback to industrial expansion. After the war and the resumption of activities along all lines, the woodworking industries here began to develop, the great wealth of hardwood timber hereabout making this a particularly profitable field.

In the meantime, following the close of the war, James H. Skinner had started a private bank at Wapakoneta, the first bank in the town, and this served as a great convenience to the community, offering exchange facilities that had been lacking. James H. Skinner, the pioneer banker, was born at Dayton and was ten years of age when his father, Robert J. Skinner, receiver of the land office, was transferred from Piqua to Wapakoneta in 1832. He thus "grew up" at Wapakoneta and early became an active figure in the general life of the community, serving for some time when little more than a boy as postmaster of the town, at the same time being engaged in the grocery business. Following the gold rush after 1849 he went to California, but returned in 1854 and became engaged as a buyer and shipper of cattle. He later served a deputyship in the county auditor's office and in 1860 was elected recorder of Auglaize county and by re-election served in this official capacity during the Civil war period. In 1866 Mr. Skinner started his bank at Wapakoneta and continued thus engaged until his death in the fall of 1878.

The second bank started in the town was the Farmers Bank, established in 1870 by Samuel Bitler, and in 1876, at about what may be regarded as the close of the pioneer period

for this county, Francis Fritsche started the Peoples Bank. In the meantime the pioneer woodworking industries were beginning to expand and in 1872 the present extensive spoke and wheel works (re-organized in 1910) was incorporated and started out on the career which has made its products known all over the country. In the next year (1873) the bent wood works, another industry that has carried the name of Wapakoneta far, was established. Other woodworking industries that began to develop about that time were the handle factory, two furniture factories, two establishments for the manufacture of wagons and carriages, besides which there was a flourishing broom factory, two flour mills, two breweries and two tanneries, which with certain lesser industries about included the industrial activities of the town when it entered upon its period of reconstruction along in the early '80s.

During the '80s the business section of the town was practically rebuilt, the old frame buildings giving way to buildings of brick or stone, and such building as has been done since then has been of an up-to-date character. As the people prospered and as conditions of living became somewhat easier, there also was a general reconstruction in the residence section and the fine modern homes which now distinguish the city began to appear. Happily, the "fathers" of the community had been thoughtful in planting shade trees along the streets and these now grown to noble proportions give a wonderful summer setting to the picturesquely situated county seat town, this shade with the miles of paved streets flanked by ample and well kept lawns, attracting the attention of tourists passing through on the two intersecting trunk highways which make Wapakoneta a sort of a center for travel north and south and east and west.

Among the industries whose manufactured products now add to the fame of Wapakoneta, besides the wheel works and the bent wood works mentioned above, there is a machine shop for the manufacture of heavy shear knives, a hollow ware factory, a chain factory, a churn factory, a plant for the manufacture of "iceless" refrigerators, a carriage factory, a

lumber and finishing mill, a canning plant, an extensive branch of a nationally known cigar factory, a cement block plant, a lightning-rod assembling plant, a creamery, a buggy shop and the varied industries that have sprung up attendant on the development of the automobile industry. The old brewery that was put out of business under the operation of the prohibition law is now manufacturing ice and "soft" drinks.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The various commercial activities of the city are well represented and well established and the spirit of continuing enterprise is promoted by an active Chamber of Commerce of which Carl D. Fischer is president, Rue P. Melching secretary, and Frank Swonguer treasurer, these with William Hamilton, George Newcomb, Roy Haman, Howard Benner, G. A. Wintzer, W. B. Morey, W. G. Holley and J. S. Groll constituting the directorate of the chamber. The first commercial association organized in the town was in 1889 during the height of the natural gas excitement throughout this part of the state and this early association, which was known as the Wapakoneta Board of Trade, did much toward promoting a spirit of co-operation in industrial and commercial activities. The directors of that historic association or board of trade were H. W. Taeusch, Henry Moser, L. N. Blume, Theo Dickman, F. J. McFarland, J. H. Timmermeister, William Kreitzer, C. A. Stueve, M. Brown, C. A. Layton, J. L. Carson, J. H. Doering and S. W. McFarland.

Co-operating with and actively supplementing the work of the Chamber of Commerce, there is at Wapakoneta a well organized Kiwanis Club, which is carrying on the general promotive operations for which Kiwanians stand throughout the country under their banner "We Build." This club was organized at a banquet meeting held at Wapakoneta on the evening of May 13, 1921, and the charter presentation was made on the following May 24. Following is a roster of the membership of the Wapakoneta Kiwanis Club, a list that will be of

much value in succeeding generations as typically representative of the men who were regarded as leaders in the various phases of commercial and industrial activity in the county seat at the time of this compilation: J. P. Anderson, drugs; Walter Arnold, insurance; George G. Bice, lumber; H. B. Benner, haberdashery; Gus Bowsher, hardware; Richard Boesel, probate judge; A. J. Brown, banking; Harve Brokaw, undertaking; Doctor Bobo, dentist; Asa Crawford, harness; W. T. Copeland, law; William Doorley, dry cleaning; M. C. Doty, dry goods; Bob Ewing, sheriff; Dr. G. B. Faulder, specialist; Frank Fisher, cigars; Charles E. Fisher, county auditor; Carl D. Fischer, manager; Fred Garretson, office man; Julius Groll, furniture; Harry Hanold, jewelry; William Hamilton, books; H. W. Hauss, automobiles; Dr. E. F. Heffner, physician; Louis Helpling, photography; W. G. Holly, chains; Homer Holmes, groceries; R. C. Haman, automobiles; Harry Kahn, shoes; A. A. Klipfel, banking; Fred A. Klipfel, mayor; Jacob F. Koenig, loans; Roy E. Layton, law; Andrew Lampert, county treasurer; Dwight Matchette, newspaper editor; R. D. Macdonald, jewelry; Rue Melching, newspaper reporter; J. H. Meyer, architect; Charles Miller, notions; John Mason, traveling salesman; George Newcomb, shoes; Herman Piel, clothing; John Purvis, decorating; Otto Rhine, drugs; Roland Rogers, dry goods; Laurence Reed, retail meats; O. S. Shaw, automobiles; Gilbert Smith, electrical; Ditmore Spees, barber; D. E. Stark, hotel; Lewis Stout, law; H. V. Swinehart, electrical engineer; F. M. Swonguer, furniture; George A. Shuster, surveying; Harry Shannon, actor; William Schuler, hay and feed; John Taensch, groceries; William Timmermeister, Red Cross; C. J. Vossler, bottling; R. B. Wahrer, garage; J. H. Weghorst, seeds; Herb Wentz, coal; Carl Werner, retail meats, and Frank Zofkie, gents furnishing.

Conspicuously displayed opposite the B. & O. railway station, where travelers easily may read it while trains are standing at the station, is a great "sign," whereon is found the following: "Welcome—This is Wapakoneta, Ohio; popu-

lation, 5,500; elevation, highest in state. Why locate here: A city of homes, good climate, pure spring water, cheap electrical power, natural gas, good transportation, fine drainage, modern schools, fine churches and lodges, many paved streets, best lighted city in state, strong financial institutions. Our factories make—welded chains, machine knives, wheels, spokes and rims, acetylene generators, hollow ware, churns, furniture, lumber, refrigerating machines, cigars and candy, canned goods and ice, tile and dairy products. Write Chamber of Commerce.”

THE BANKS OF WAPAKONETA.

In further relation to the banks of Wapakoneta, it is found that the Farmers Bank started in 1870 by Samuel Bitler and referred to above, suspended after about ten years of operation, leaving the Peoples Bank, which was started by Francis Fritsche in 1876, occupying the field until the organization of the First National Bank in 1884. Two years later, in 1886, the Peoples Bank was reorganized as the Peoples National Bank, with Francis Fritsche as president and F. J. McFarland as cashier. The present officary of this bank is as follows: President, S. W. McFarland; vice president, A. J. Brown; cashier, A. L. McMurray, who, together with F. J. Zofkie, C. A. Stueve, F. M. Swonguer, F. J. Rinehart, F. E. Bailey, C. C. Berlin and William Bibler constitute the directorate. The Peoples National Bank is capitalized at \$100,000 and its current report as of May 5, 1922, reveals resources of \$1,234,609.22, with a surplus fund of \$75,000, undivided profits aggregating \$26,588.93 and deposits amounting to \$884,752.17.

The First National Bank of Wapakoneta was organized in 1884, with L. N. Blume as president and Charles F. Herbst, Sr., as cashier, the latter of whom died in 1910. Following the death of Mr. Blume in 1912 Charles F. Herbst, son of the former cashier of the bank, was elected president and is still serving in that capacity, the other members of the officary

of this bank being as follows: Vice presidents, E. A. Hauss and Harry G. Fisher; cashier, J. F. Moser, these with C. W. Timmermeister, Henry Moser, William Kreitzer, J. F. Goeke and F. C. Layton constituting the directorate of the bank. The First National Bank is capitalized at \$200,000 and its report as of May 5, 1922, reveals resources of \$2,097,237.60, with undivided profits amounting to \$48,617.07, a surplus fund of \$50,000 and deposits aggregating \$1,528,570.43.

The above banks supplied the banking needs of the community until in 1911, when the Auglaize National Bank was organized with F. H. Haman as president. Following the death of Mr. Haman in 1915, William J. McMurray, then editor of *The Auglaize Republican*, was elected president of the bank. Mr. McMurray retired from the newspaper business at that time and has since been serving as president of the bank, the other members of the officary of this bank being as follows: Vice president, William Bitler; cashier, A. A. Klipfel, these officers, together with R. C. Haman, Louis Piel (late deceased), S. A. Hoskins, A. G. Boogher, J. F. Seitz, J. M. Copeland and Edwin Abe, constituting the directorate of the bank. The Auglaize National Bank is capitalized at \$100,000 and its report as of May 5, 1922, reveals resources of \$1,075,425.89, with a surplus fund of \$50,000, undivided profits amounting to \$19,183.03, and deposits aggregating \$666,322.95.

Further details regarding the commercial and industrial life of the county seat town as well as of the county in general will be found in references to the other towns and villages of the county and in the biographical section of this work, wherein is carried the life stories of many of the men who were leaders in the business life of the community in days gone by and of many who now are equally active and influential in their generation. Concerning these biographies and the wealth of information they carry, it may be well to bear in mind, as one thoughtful writer has put it, that "biography is the foundation of all history, for the processes of achievement grow out of what men do as men. These real things, the story

of these individual achievements, must be recorded that they may bring back to the generations that are passing and those that are coming the memories of what they and their fathers did. The successors of these founders must know what were the foundations of our community history, that they may have in them and their builders that pride without which we cannot become and remain a united force. If our people cannot learn how their heritage has been created they will not have either the interest or the intelligence to know and understand the larger things in the world about them."

WATERWORKS AND ELECTRIC LIGHTS.

It was along in the early '90s that the people of Wapakoneta became aroused to the necessity of providing a proper waterworks system for the city and also to the need of installing an electric light plant. The matter was talked up and was made an issue in the fall election of 1894, a vote of approval being called for on both a waterworks and an electric light project, the proposed plants to be erected and maintained under municipal direction. The vote was against the projects, but the agitation was continued and in the following April election the proponents of the enterprise won out and the council issued bonds to cover the proposed improvements and set about the construction of the two plants. During the progress of the waterworks construction the men employed on the trenches went on a strike just at a time when flood waters filled the open trenches and in some instances caused the flooding of adjacent residence property. One citizen who volunteered to fill in the trenches along the block in which he lived, to avert the flood there, was attacked by a number of the strikers. In resisting the assault he shot and fatally wounded the two leaders of the strikers and this virtually ended the strike. That was in 1895 and the city has since successfully operated both its waterworks and electric light plants on the municipal plan.

As previously noted, Wapakoneta is singularly well favored in having artesian water in its mains, this being

pumped into a standpipe, the pump house and the electric light plant being operated in conjunction. The city manufactured its own electric current until in 1920, when a contract was entered into with the Western Ohio Electric Railway Company for current supplied from that company's extensive plant at St. Marys. The old electric light plant was dismantled, the building reconstructed and a modern plant for the transformation of the high-energy current from the traction company's huge plant substituted for the old machinery. It also was in the middle '90s that the demand for better and uniform sidewalks resulted in improvements along that line. In good time street paving followed. The call of progress has ever found Wapakoneta alert and responsive.

ORGANIZATION OF DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP.

Duchouquet township was not set off as a separate civil unit of what then constituted Allen county until in the spring of 1833, a year following the departure of the Indians from this vicinity. In February, 1833, at a called meeting of the citizens of the town of Wapakoneta and the neighboring settlements held at the inn of Jeremiah Ayers in Wapakoneta a petition was formulated and was signed by all present praying the commissioners of Allen county to delimit the territory comprised within the present township and set it off as a township to be called Duchouquet. This petition was presented to the commissioners sitting at Lima on the following March 4 and was favorably acted upon, the commissioners then ordering an election to be held in the territory thus bounded (as set out in the introduction to this chapter) on the second Monday of April following to elect officers for the new township. At this election officers were elected as follows: Trustees, Peter Hammell, William Patton and Shadrach Montgomery, the last named of whom became a member of the first board of county commissioners upon the erection of Auglaize county fifteen years later; township clerk, James Elliott; treasurer, John Tam; supervisors, Beal Spurrier,

Samuel Howell and William Spray; overseers of the poor, Alonzo Neal and Samuel Howell; fence viewers, Bryant Mc-Namore and Jacob Thatcher; justices of the peace, Charles L. Levering and James Elliott, and constables, Henry Van-Blaricome and John Campbell.

These officials took their respective offices in due time and Duchouquet township got down to business, by the time Auglaize county was set off in 1848 having become a pretty well settled and rapidly improving farming community of great potential wealth. The promise of improvement which buoyed up the settlers upon whom fell the hard task of clearing the land has been fulfilled in a manner that their most vivid dreams could not have pictured. Present conditions have been brought about in less than one hundred years. What will the next century bring forth in the way of continued progress?

THE ROLL CALL OF THE PIONEERS.

The tax duplicate for the year 1848 shows the following landowners in Duchouquet township when Auglaize county was erected: Jeremiah Ayers, George Ayers, Aughenbaugh & Barnett, George Albine, Larew Allen, Daniel M. Arthur, Malcomb Anderson, John Anderson, William Armstrong, John Armstrong, Benjamin M. Baker, Elias Burk, Isaac Borton, Sr., Isaac Borton, Jr., Job Borton, Ann Borton, Rebecca Borden, Jacob Borden, James Burden, Joshua Burden, G. W. Burke, William Burke, ——— Baltzell, William Butler, Nathaniel Brown, Andrew Baliner, Therebaugh Butterfield, John Boreman, George Berewint, Mathias Bumgardner, Erhart Burk, John Brower, David Bobp, John C. Bothe, Melyun D. Baker, John Bidleman, William Butterworth, George Bear, Philip Blank, Anton Bowdentesser, George Brown, Philip Brocket, William Beckdolt, F. H. Binkley, James Buchannon, Abijah Bedd, M. D. Brook, George S. Binkley, John Bumfield, Jonas H. Buncutter, Jonas Belknap, Benjamin M. Baker, Nathan Cretcher, Miles Cowan,

Cyrus Clark, Christian Cook, George Coon, Peter Catrow, Julia J. Chamberlain, Joseph Conread, George Conread, Thomas Crawford, Joseph Craft, Nicholas Clen, Jacob Cook, Zephaniah Catrow, James Crozier, Erastue Deigh, Peter Delashment, John Decklar, Hamilton Davison, William Deval, Anthony Davis, G. H. Dapper, William Dohn, Jacob Delong, George Delong, Abraham Ebright, Thomas C. Edmond, John Elliott, James Elliott, David Edimston, Henry Eckhart, George Emerick, George Espy, L. D. Ford, Archibald Fisher, Rebecca Fox, Adam Focht, Edward Fitzpatrick, J. M. Freiman, David Fronfield, Thomas Foster, Lorentz Fry, Valentine Flegel, John Frazier, Henry Freyer, Jacob Fleming, Joseph Fulton, Fredrick Greider, George Grisso, John Griebel, Elisha Griffith, M. R. Guthridge, Abraham Gardner, Adam Guise, Hiram Garver, Conrad Heile, Bernard Heidecker, P. V. Herzing, Henry Heidecker, Joseph Hangstler, John Hutching, J. H. Housmeyer, John Heile, Jacob Hittle, Joseph Hoover, C. & J. Harbine, Ambrose Harvey, Ayers & Howell Hammel, Joseph Haywood, Francis Houk, Peter Hammel, G. W. Holbrook, Manuel Hoover, John A. Holtzerman, John B. Hoops, Richard Jones, Jacob Jenkins, F. & Thomas Johnston & Co., Ephraim Jenkins, T. K. Jacobs, Anna Kritza, Jacob Kritzer, Martin Kentner, Lewis Koch, Joseph Kenninger, Lorentz Kahlor, Anthony Kuntz, John, Isaac and Robert Kemper, Joseph Lowery, Samuel Larew, Michael Leatherman, F. H. Lancomer, Israel Lucas, George Liblin, Esther Levering, B. H. Lanning, Mathias Lancomer, John Lowery, the Widow Monroe, Michael Miller, Antone Miller, Sr., Antone Miller, Jr., John Miller, Frederick Matzgar, James Miller, William McCartney, Thornton E. Marks, James Marks, Martin Miller, John Mason, Robert McMurray, John Morningstar, Richard Matheany, Archelaus Martin, E. Master, Andrew McClure, Andrew Moffitt, Joseph Markle, Enoch Moore, George Morrin, Joseph Miller, Joseph Marks, Samuel Mayer, Jacob Mowrer, Charles McClintick, John Norris, Adam and Jacob Overholser, H. H. Oswald, Amos Parlette, Philip Plaff, Joshua Parlette, Samuel Ross, Eli and William Reicheldarfer, Peter

Rohrabaker, Philip Range, Justus Romshe, Thomas, Charles and Silas Roney, Adam Richey, Jacob Snider, Andrew Scott Robert Serrels, R. J. Skinner, Skinner & VanHorn, Samuel Serrels, Mathias Spees, B. Spurrier, Neal Shaw, J. P. Shackelton, Frederick Sallard, George Spangler, Casper, Catherine, Oliver, Amie and Daniel Smith, Henry Stoddart, Christopher Strickler, William B. Spaulding, John Saum, David D. Schafer, William F. Schroader, Larkin Smith, John Schooler, George F. and James M. Shaw, Samuel Sprague, William Shaw. Jacob Schafer, Leonard Sellers, George Sopman, John Shawber, B. A. Satterthwaite, Moses Trayer, John Tam, Thomas Throckmorton, B. H. Thorne, Joel P. Ullery, VanHorn & Skinner, William A. VanHorn, Thomas VanHorn, Jacob Whiteman, George Winemiller, Terban Walter, J. K. Wilds, J. G. Wolf, Joseph Weymert, John Weaver, Jr., Ebenezer Wheeler, G. W. Williams, Moses Wheeler, Reuben Winget, John Williams, Stephen M. Wheeler, J. G. Wolf, John Xander, Joseph Young, Michael Yarzell, Joseph Zink, Jacob Zinn and Samuel Zurmely.

In the town of Wapakoneta there were listed at that time the following lot owners: Jeremiah and Grover Ayers, Peter Bon, John Bonner, John C. Bothe, Jacob Burden, Anthony Buckley, G. W. Bearinger, Daniel Bitler, S. M. Brower, Conrad Bimel, John Bimel, Casper Bonfig, John and Charles Bobp, William Craft, William Craft, Jr., John C. Clawson, John Clawson, F. Drake, Antony Dieker, Michael Dumbroff, Simon Dresher, John and James Elliott, J. G. Freeman, John H., Benjamin and Thomas Fisher, C. G. Galezior, Charles Herbst, Job Haines, Jacob Hartman, Francis Holtzhauzer, P. V. Herzing, George Hay, Henry and Bernard Heideker, Joseph Hamilton, George W. Holbrook, R. S. Joslyn, Elisha Jolly, Daniel Jacobs, Christian Kearnes, Joseph Keller, S. B. King, George Kohn, Henry Leckey, Mary Littlefield, James Morrow, J. V. McLelland, Henry Miller, John Neppzin, J. H. Nichols, B. & C. Rossing, Anthony Roth, Michael Seifert, S. Smith, R. J. Skinner, Beverly Shaw, John Shawn, John Shannon, Thomas B. VanHorn, Benjamin Winwood,

Thomas Williams, Jonathan K. Wilds and James Westley. There were five physicians, George W. Holbrook, John H. Nichols, George W. Trumbull, Paul Abits and Adolphus Steinhoff, and one attorney, Michael Dumbroff, listed for special license taxation in that year.

THE VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE.

Cridersville, the only other town in Duchouquet township besides the county seat, is a development since the coming of the old Dayton & Michigan (present B. & O.) railway in 1858. When the survey of that road was being made and it became assured that the line was going through the lands of Ephraim and Isaac Crider on the north line of the county in the northwest corner of section 35 of Duchouquet township these two enterprising members of that community platted a townsite of twenty-four lots with the line of the survey of the railway forming a diagonal boundary on the east, and named it Cridersville. This plat was filed for record on April 17, 1856, the proprietors thus taking time by the forelock, for the railroad was not completed until two years later. After the railway came the town proved such an advantageous shipping point about midway between Wapakoneta and Lima that its progress was steady and substantial. When the natural gas and oil "boom" came in the late '80s and the great oil pool in the Cridersville neighborhood was developed, the town took on a new growth and the population tripled in a short time. With the development came substantial improvements and the town is widely known as a well built and attractive village. When the line of the Western Ohio electric railway reached Cridersville about twenty years ago the town was given another impetus. During the time of the greatest activity in the old field thereabout Cridersville had a newspaper, *The Bi-County Review*, but the paper's field was too restricted and it did not last long. The first store in the village was that established by John Murdock upon the arrival of the railroad in 1858. The town now has a bank and the usual

complement of business houses to supply the local trading demand and bears an air of substantial prosperity. The town's handsome high school building is pictured in the chapter on schools in this work, this modern building having been a development from the old village school house which supplanted the pioneer school there in 1875. The Home Bank of Cridersville was organized in 1903 and has proved a great convenience to the community in that part of the county. The officers of this bank are E. F. Reichelderfer, president; A. E. Brentlinger, vice president; E. E. Arthur, cashier; assistant cashiers, R. D. Arthur and G. C. Reichelderfer. The bank is capitalized at \$10,000 and a recent statement of its condition reveals that its resources are in excess of \$158,000, with deposits of \$170,000 and a surplus of \$8,000.

In a brief review of Cridersville attached to the plat of that village published in his atlas of this county in 1917, J. H. Meyer observed in referring to the town that "its business institutions generally give outside evidence of the prosperity of the community and the public spirit of its officials. Beautiful residences and well kept streets, such as are found in few towns its size, has given it a reputation as an ideal place in which to reside." Considering the source, this is praise indeed. The 1920 census gave Cridersville a population of 493.

CHAPTER XII

ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY OF ST. MARYS.

St. Marys township, occupying the central part of the western tier of townships in Auglaize county and the oldest civil division in the county, is a true congressional township (town 6, south of range 4 east) of thirty-six square miles and is bounded on the north by Noble township, on the east by Washington township and Shelby county, on the south by German township and on the west by Mercer county. The Grand Reservoir (Lake St. Marys) extends into this township from the west almost to the western edge of the city of St. Marys and covers about four square miles of the township's surface. This reservoir, as previously has been set out in connection with the narrative relating to the Miami & Erie canal, is the largest artificial body of water in the world and was constructed as a source of water supply for the canal, which flows through the township from St. Marys on the northern line of the township in section 3 a bit east of south and on out in section 35. The township has ample drainage through the St. Marys river and its tributaries, supplemented by an adequate system of ditches, the river being formed at the south edge of the city of St. Marys by the confluence of the East, Center and West branches, this forming a waterway which determined settlement there at the beginning of historic times hereabout, the head of pirouge navigation here having been selected as a site for the establishment of a trading post in the days of the French traders and later as a site for a fort when the military campaigns against the Indians were being carried on throughout this section, all of which has been set out in an earlier chapter in this work. The township is entered by two railroads, the Toledo & Ohio Central, skirting the northern border of the township and having its western terminus at St. Marys, and the Lake Erie & Western railway,

entering the city from the northeast and proceeding west, with a southern branch terminating at Minster on the southern edge of the county. The Western Ohio electric line from Wapakoneta to Celina also follows the northern border of the township, passing through St. Marys, at which place the traction company maintains its power house.

ST. MARYS AS FORMER SEAT OF JUSTICE.

It is said that when St. Marys township, then a civil division of Mercer county, was organized in 1824, at the time St. Marys was established as the county seat of Mercer, there were but twenty-nine taxpayers in the township and that the total taxes collected amounted to but \$26.64. As has previously been set out, St. Marys remained the seat of justice for Mercer county until 1840, when the county seat was removed to Celina. This was eight years before the erection of Auglaize county, when St. Marys township was disannexed from Mercer and attached to this county. In the meantime settlers were coming in and taking up the lands in the township, so that by the time Auglaize county was erected in 1848 the township was pretty well settled. The impetus given to this settlement by the construction of the canal, beginning in the late '30s, and the gigantic work connected with the construction of the Grand Reservoir, was maintained when the commercial and industrial importance of the canal began generally to be recognized and the later settlers thus were of a substantial character, this giving a "tone" to the community which ever has been maintained. When Auglaize county was organized St. Marys township was pretty well populated and the farmers and landowners there naturally joined with the people of St. Marys in demanding that the county seat be located there, but the central location of Wapakoneta, the other claimant of county seat honors, was an argument against them which apparently could not be overcome and they had to swallow their disappointment; a not particularly agreeable potion, according to all accounts. This township profited

greatly by the construction of the plank road between St. Marys and Wapakoneta and between St. Marys and Ft. Wayne in the early '50s, these roads and the canal giving the people of that part of the county what then were regarded as the best possible advantages for transportation. Besides affording an exceptional outlet for labor, the plank roads also afforded a ready market for the valuable timber needed in their construction, for it is recalled that none but the best timber was used in the construction of these roads and many of the land owners in that section were able thus profitably to dispose of their timber that otherwise would largely have been a dead loss, for that was in the days before the woodworking industries had begun to develop a local market for the timber which had to be cleared away before farm land could become available. The Ohio & Indiana plank road from St. Marys on northwest through Mercer, Shanesville, Willshire, Decatur (Ind.) and thence to Ft. Wayne opened a tremendous traffic in hoop poles which in season were poured in almost ceaseless caravans into St. Marys for further transportation thence by canal. This road was built by subscription and was completed in 1852, about the time the plank road east to Wapakoneta was completed, a story of which is carried elsewhere. For almost a quarter of a century, or until the coming of the free gravel pikes in the middle '70s, these plank roads were maintained by the owners, who collected toll for maintenance and such profit as might accrue to the stockholders. St. Marys township was among the first in this part of the state to take advantage of the law authorizing the construction of free turnpikes and upon the beginning of that work in 1876 plans were adopted for an extension of the work until the township was equipped with a complete system of gravel roads, many of which later were further improved by the macadam process and some of these later giving way to paved highways.

TALES OF THE OLD MILITARY TRAIL.

Agriculturally, St. Marys township is abreast of the times. The soil generally is a rich black loam of high productive qualities and since the drainage of the township has been exceptionally well taken care of by numerous county, township, state and private ditches, "it has become a leader in all lines of agricultural improvement," according to one well informed reviewer, while another emphasizes this by observing that "the lands adjacent to the great reservoir and along the St. Marys river and its tributaries are unsurpassed in their fertility." The old Wayne military road passes through this township and there is a well defined local tradition to the effect that General Wayne was compelled on one occasion, owing to the difficulties of the march and the necessity of abandoning stores, to bury a large sum of money, said to be as much as \$150,000, upon his approach to St. Marys and that this money never was reclaimed. The point of burial of this money is said to be on what is now the farm of County Commissioner Elmer H. Youngs, in section 21 of St. Marys township, about two miles and a half south of St. Marys, along the line of the old military trail, now the St. Marys-New Bremen road. Mr. Youngs is living in confident expectation that some day his plow will turn the money up, but he has laid no plans for retirement pending such discovery.

Concerning this old military trail, which later was used in the Harrison campaigns, it perhaps will be recognized as an excellent sidelight on the conditions of the swampy soil here in the early days and the consequent difficulties of transportation in those days to introduce here the following description penned by Capt. Robert B. McFee, an officer in Harrison's army during the War of 1812, as a part of the official report he made concerning the progress of the army: "The roads were bad beyond description. None but those who have actually seen the state of the country seem ever to have formed a correct estimate of the difficulties to be encountered. The road from Loramie's block house to the St. Marys and thence

to Defiance was one continuous swamp, knee deep to the horses and up to the hubs of the wagons. It was found impossible to get even the empty wagons along and many were left sticking in the mire and ravines, the wagoners being glad to get off with the horses alive. Sometimes the quartermaster, taking advantage of a temporary freeze, would send off a convoy of provisions, which would be swamped by a thaw before it reached its destination. These natural difficulties were also increased by great deficiency of funds and inadequacy of other resources which were requisite in the quartermaster's department. The only persons who could be secured to act as packhorse drivers were generally the most worthless creatures in society, who took care neither of the horses nor the goods with which they were entrusted. The horses, of course, were soon broken down and many of the packs lost. The teams hired to haul were also commonly valued so high on coming into service that the owners were willing to drive them to debility and death with a view to get the price. In addition to this, no bills of lading were used or accounts kept with the wagoners, and of course each one had an opportunity to plunder the public without much risk of detection." The picture of the old trail here presented in Captain McAfee's report compared with that of the present admirable highway which marks the former trail affords a most illuminating commentary on the progress which has been made along that line since the days of settlement here, and the memory of the pioneers ought to be kept green, for certainly they wrought well.

PIONEERS OF ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP.

The tax duplicate for 1848 reveals the following land-owners in this township when Auglaize county was erected: Daniel Ayers, David Armstrong, Samuel Armstrong, John Armstrong, Sr., John Armstrong II, James C. Anderson, Demas Adams, Joseph D. Blew, William Botkin, Margaret Botkin, James Botkin, Christian Benner, R. R. Barrington, Joshua Benner, E. T. Bates, George Craft, Joseph Combs,

Joseph Catterlin, Edward Cooper, James Carr, Asahel Cleveland, Joseph Doute, Pickett Doute, Frederick Dubling, Amos Doute, Thomas Doute, William Fink, Frederick Fry, Henry Franz, Jonas Farlin, R. B. Gordon, H. M. Helm, John Hawthorn, William B. Hedges, B. F. Harmes, Henry W. Hinkle, Mary Hinkle, James D. Hoy, B. H. Huckerider, Jones Haney, John Helm, John S. Houston, William A. Houston, William Hollingsworth, George Kipp, William L. Helfenstein, Samuel Johnston, John W. Jones, G. F. W. Kolhorst, Frederick Koop, James Kay, William Kenning, H. F. Kenning, William Kirten, Jared Kelsey, Samuel Long, Lewis Lake, Thomas Longworth, J. Longworth, Samuel Lynch, Jacob Long, John Luneman, Henry Ludecke, Elizabeth McCoy, J. Miller, John Mause, Frederick Marquand, M. G. Mitchell, William Mines, John H. Mohrman, John C. Mohrman, Thomas McKee, Samuel A. Major, Mark E. McMahon, J. H. Neismeyer, John B. Neiman, Gottlieb Neitert, William Preston, John Pickerel, Daniel Rankin, J. W. Riley, O. C. Road, Sabert Scott, Samuel Scott, Ann Sackett, B. F. Schroader, F. H. Schroader, M. W. Smith, Herman V. Shafer, Thomas Skillman, R. W. Stearnes, J. G. Strasburg, John D. Strasburg, John D. Seimer, Thomas S. Sturgeon, H. H. Schroerluke, Elizabeth Smith, G. H. Studheite, Henry A. Smith, H. H. Shearholtz, J. F. Smith, Samuel Statler, William Tellman, Diederick Tohle, Lawrence Tafe, D. H. Tangerman, Evan O. Thomas, P. VanMiddlesworth, Charles Walker, John Wappenhorst, J. N. Millenbrook, Henry Weirwile, William Weirwile, Charles Watkins, Peter Wagner, William White, James Wilkins, John W. Weimeyer, John T. Weimeyer and George Young.

In the town of St. Marys at that time were the following land and lot owners: The Armstrongs, David, John and William; John Achey, James Anderson, John Aley, R. R. Barrington, Barbee & Sherrick, Charles Bowser, H. T. Brandenburg, Barbee & Kinsley, Robert Bigger, Peter Bugh, John Baker, David Bender, Lewis Broadwell, Randall Black, John

Blew, George Berk, Valentine Burget, Nancy Beauchamp, Joseph D. Blew, L. R. Brownell, George Berry, Aaron Chester, Crane & Davis, Robert Cooper, N. & C. Chapman, Joseph Curtis, William M. Crane, R. J. Crosier, C. W. Cowan, ——— Craighead, Isaac Demherst, C. Dennison, C. P. Dunbaugh, L. D. Dowty, William Draline, Eli M. Dennison, David Eastwood, F. C. Estabrook, Cyrenus Elliott, Daniel Eichleburger, John Elliott, Robert Elliott, William A. Elliott, John Eicher, J. W. Fulton, B. Gilbert, Reuben P. Graham, Daniel S. Gaus, Bernard Gilbert, R. B. Gordon, Michael Goddard, Gordan & Sawyer, John Gardner, Isaac House, Robert Harvey, J. Harshman, John Hawthorn, William Hollingsworth, Nicholas Holtz, William L. Helfenstein, John S. Houston, David Hays, H. M. Helm, John Hollingsworth, J. E. Hollingsworth, George Holtzbecker, Lewis Holtzbecker, Nancy Houston, Philip V. Herzing, John Hawthorn, Henry L. Huesch, Garrett Handley, Frederick Henick, Henry A. Hapson, John House, Samuel Imhoff, John W. Jones, William Johnston, George Johnston, Jared Kelsey, Joseph Kelsey, Benjamin Linzee, Adam Linch, Peter P. Lowe, Franklin Linzee, Henry Lemcohl, A. D. Levering, Herman Long, Dennis McMannis, G. W. McLaughlin, A. V. Medberry, M. G. Mitchell, Medberry & Stearns, James Major, Caleb Major, Henry Morvelius, George C. McCune, L. D. McMahon, Samuel McKee, Thomas McKee, Samuel A. Major, Samuel R. Mott, Jacob Morvelius, William M. Murdock, L. D. Mann, M. W. McLean, Erastus Porter, Joseph Plunkett, Daniel Piper, George Piper, Elisha Phelps, Benjamin Patton, John M. Parks, John Pickerel, E. M. Phelps, Bartholomew Rapp, Roher & Sherick, Daniel Rankin, Charles Route, Chas. F. Risse, John J. Rickey, O. C. Rood, J. W. Riley, Samuel Ruckman, Frederick Romagle, W. L. Ross, Patrick Stone, William Sawyer, Sawyer & Williams, Samuel Scott, M. W. Smith, Scott, Linzee & Co., John W. Stoker, C. M. Statler, L. C. Shawyer, Charles Spankenburg, R. W. Stearnes, Samuel Statler, Sabert Scott, T. J. Stephens, John Stephens, Thomas Stone, John Stromenger, David Simpson, Diederick Schroe-

der, G. W. Timmonds, Joseph Tangerman, Hector Topping, A. H. Trimble, D. Vandervol, Cuthbert Vincent, Isaac Wingart, J. R. Wagner, L. Worst, Lewis Whiteman, V. H. Weaver, S. J. Worthington, John S. Watts, J. F. Whiteman, George Wise, Christian Whiteman, William Youngs, Robert Younger and E. D. Zimer. The practicing physicians then located at St. Marys who paid the physician's license fee of \$1 for the year 1848 were Doctor Goodrich, Doctor Holderman, A. O. Connell and R. W. Stearnes, and the lawyers who paid a similar tax levied on the attorneys were William M. Crane, C. W. Cowan, F. C. LeBlond, S. R. Mott, Joseph Plunkett and E. M. Phelps.

DEVELOPMENT OF ST. MARYS TOWN.

As has been set out in the chapter relating to the settlement of the county and the pioneer period, the growth of the village of St. Marys was a gradual development which received no real impetus until the village became established as the county seat of Mercer county in 1824. As Professor Simkins has it in his review (1901), "no material growth was manifested at the isolated settlement at St. Marys before this date, and even then the outlook was not promising." There was a little grist mill down the trail on the creek at Loramies and another and somewhat more pretentious mill on the Miami farther down at Piqua. To the west there were a few scattered settlers, mostly "squatters" whose chief business was hunting and trapping. The adjacent county of Jay over the line in Indiana was not erected until in 1836, when it was disannexed from Randolph county, which at that time covered a somewhat vague stretch of territory to the north and west. To the east the Indians on the Wapakoneta reservation still held their lands, while to the north there stretched the desolate Black Swamp country, dreary and forbidding. A mail route was not established at St. Marys until in 1827, the mail then being brought up by post rider from Piqua and distributed to the settlers who by that time had begun to make themselves known in the district. Ten years later, in 1837, work on the

canal was begun and the real development of the village dates from that period, commercial development following rapidly after the completion of the canal in 1845. In the meantime, the neighboring village of Celina over to the west was being developed as a commercial center and in 1840 the county seat was removed to that place, St. Marys thus losing whatever prestige at that time attached to the civic center. The value of the canal, however, more than compensated for this blow to civic pride and St. Marys maintained its steady growth, which was given a further stimulus upon the completion of the first railroad to that town in 1877, the present Lake Erie & Western. The manufacturing industries that had developed with the coming of the canal took on new life with the coming of the railroad and have since maintained their own.

With the passing of the pioneer period of development in the village a new interest was taken in general promotion and advancement was made along all lines. When natural gas and oil were revealed in the vicinity of the city in the late '80s, as has been set out elsewhere, the town profited largely by the stimulus this gave to industry and a new period of development ensued. In June, 1895, a destructive fire in the very heart of the city created a loss in excess of \$100,000, this destruction including the woolen mills, the Neitert & Koops mill, the Neitert building, the Hoffer building, the Koehl building, the Wendeln bock, the Holkamp building, the Bishop building and the Pauck building. The reconstruction of the burnt area produced a modern type of buildings which added much to the appearance of the commercial district and all construction that has taken place since has been of a substantial and attractive character. It also was during the '90s that the residence section of the city was practically rebuilt, many of the present handsome residences having been erected during that period. Civic development also took on a new spurt about that time, water works and electric light, uniform sidewalks and street paving coming in about that time and in 1907 a comprehensive sewer system was completed. With the

erection of the beautiful Memorial park following the World war, a real beauty spot was created where before had been an unsightly group of old buildings, interesting but valueless relics of canal days; the armory of Company K., O. N. G., and the library building were erected facing this park and other plans now in hand, including the erection of a new city hall and a new high school building facing the park, contemplate the eventual development of a real civic center that will add greatly to the appearance of the town. A picture of Memorial park and pictures of street scenes in St. Marys presented in this work convey better than words a proper impression of the "down town" section of the city.

ST. MARYS COMMERCIAL CLUB.

As a recent commercial review of the city of St. Marys sets out, "to the last man all of the members of the Commercial Club take great pride in the growth of the city along so many lines, not only in the manufacturing line, but in the erection of new business blocks and the improvement and remodeling of many others." This same review also points out that the citizenship of St. Marys "is made up of an element of most intelligent workmen and of business men that possess sound judgment and integrity, her banks are controlled by men who are acknowledged financiers and who have always taken a firm stand against all speculative schemes and have at all times vigorously upheld all that promised permanence." The points also are made that "St. Marys has more miles of paved streets than any city of its size in Ohio," and that "our farmers are all well to do, roads are kept in excellent condition, scenery beautiful and picturesque and crops rarely ever fail, owing to the fine soil." The St. Marys Commercial Club, which it was pointed out "is composed of practically every manufacturer and merchant, most of the professional men and numerous farmers," was organized in 1915 with the following officers: President, C. C. McBroom, superintendent of city schools; vice president, C. W. Schemel; secretary, L. C. Brod-

beck; treasurer, C. F. Limbacher, and directors, William Jaspersen, Edward Wust, Albert Herzing, C. W. Schemel, A. B. Kohler, Frank Ausman, C. C. McBroom, H. B. Casperson, Ernest Wiehe, William Geiger, Paul Graetz, A. L. Saum, A. C. Buehler, Jacob Victor, J. D. Hollenbaugh, Charles Limbacher, L. C. Broadbeck, Herman Haberkamp, Henry Koop and Ewald Kellermeyer.

This old commercial club recently was reorganized under the name of the St. Marys Chamber of Commerce, a body designed to promote both the civic and industrial advancement of the city, which adopted as its motto "Progress and Prosperity" and started in to work out a laudably ambitious program of city betterment. The officers of the Chamber of Commerce are as follows: President, Jacob Victor; vice presidents, Harold G. Neely and A. C. Buss; secretary, H. S. Jenkins, and treasurer, W. J. Kishler, these together with William Jaspersen, Roy Heap and W. C. Fisher forming the directorate of the chamber.

INTERESTING BIT OF REMINISCENCE.

In an earlier commercial review compiled as a "souvenir" of Home-coming Week at St. Marys in 1907 the point was made that "St. Marys is not a boom city. The population is stable, not of a transcient nature, but is composed of an industrious and intelligent class of citizens, the sort who do things. The increase in population has been both natural and steady and the working of natural laws cannot help but continue its growth." The census for 1920 gives St. Marys a population of 5,679.

In this same "home-coming" review there is carried an interesting bit of reminiscence concerning the early history of St. Marys prepared by Mrs. T. G. Touvelle and to which reference has heretofore been made, in which it is set forth that "near the confluence of the three branches which form the St. Marys river, named by French traders, was built in 1811 Ft. St. Marys. The St. Marys river is indeed a historic

stream. Three times crossed and twice bridged by General Wayne, it was protected by a line of forts which extended from St. Marys to Defiance. On its banks Generals Hull and Harrison encamped and at Ft. St. Marys troops were concentrated, organized and sent to Ft. Wayne and Ft. Defiance. By the Greenville treaty of 1795 the United States was given the right to navigate the St. Marys river from its head one mile south of town to Ft. Wayne, and for nearly half a century this crooked stream was the way through which passed nearly all the military and pioneer supplies for the northwest. Upon the east bank, nearly opposite the fort, stood the cabin of brave, friendly Simon Kenton; through its narrow channel glided the canoe of Simon Girty as he plotted treachery and revenge, and down its swift currents passed the rafts of the French traders, Anthony Shane, Madore, Mazane, Labadie and Murray. Through the dense woods came to its banks the Indian braves and their squaws to exchange with the traders venison and skins for whisky, tobacco, beads and gay cotton goods; and the brave pioneer alone or with his family, with no protection but his rifle and unerring aim sped northward on its waters toward the prairies, there to find a home.

“In 1820 St. Marys was partly laid out by Charley Murray, the village consisting of two streets, Main street and Wayne street. Main street was a continuation of the Piqua road, the great highway of Government and pioneer travel, wagons coming from Piqua and points south to St. Marys with goods to be rafted north by the river. * * * In 1824 St. Marys was made the county seat of Mercer county. The earliest courts were held in a tavern. In 1825 the commissioners purchased thirty lots and donated fifteen for county purposes and fifteen for village public buildings, school houses and churches. In 1825 the county jail was built on the site of the present school building, corner of Wayne and Spring streets. In the year 1827 the court house was built at the corner of Main and Spring streets. It was a two-story frame building and cost \$290. * * * After the removal of the county seat the building was sold to William Porter, who

moved it a few feet back from the corner and turned it around, the end facing Main street. This building is still standing (1907) and is owned by Mrs. George Wegely. In 1839 the first bridge was built across the St. Marys river. At this time there was but one human habitation on the east side of the river, a log cabin built on the present site of the Wust block, until recently occupied by the Ohio House, and owned by Samuel Salter. The building of the bridge extended Spring street across the river and several additions were made to the plat of St. Marys."

Concerning the completion of the canal, Mrs. Touvelle's observations have it that "on the Fourth of July, 1845, the firing of cannon and the music of fife and drum announced the coming of the first through packet from Piqua to Defiance. As the horses appeared in sight on the tow path and the packet came slowly around the bend, a flag floating at the wheel and the bell ringing in slow, steady tones, nearly every inhabitant of St. Marys gave a welcoming shout. Next in importance as an event in St. Marys was the completion of the Ohio and Indiana plank road, extending from St. Marys to Ft. Wayne. The building of this road, passing through deep swamps and almost pathless forests, was a great undertaking. * * * It took two years to build it and in the summer of 1852 the formal surrender by the contractors to the stockholders was made. Hon. A. P. Egerton, M. C., of this district, received the surrender in behalf of the stockholders along the route. The meeting was held at the north end of Wayne street, the terminus of the road. With the opening of the plank road began the traffic in hoop poles, the long caravans of which passed down Main and Wayne streets and through Spring street and unloaded on the bank of the canal. * * * The first tavern kept in St. Marys was in a frame house built in 1829 on the corner of Main and South streets and was kept by Samuel Stattler. It was near the court house and the same bell that called the meals rang for the opening of the court. In 1835 a tavern was kept by Mr. Bigger on Main street. In 1856 the Bates brothers, of Rochester, N. Y., who were large



Street View in St. Marys.



Street View in St. Marys.

contractors on the canal, built the Mercer hotel. This was the finest hotel north of Dayton and for many years it was the stopping place of distinguished men. After the death of the owners it became a tenement house, but later was converted into the Dieker House, which enjoyed a long and excellent reputation. The Sawyer House (recently the Ohio House) was built by William Sawyer in 1848 and for many years claimed the canal travel. The National House on the east side of Main street was built by S. S. Rickley in 1844. It was on the direct road from Piqua and was the stopping place for this travel and was the favorite home of young lawyers and physicians. This house afterward became the Bimel carriage manufactory. Perhaps the strongest association of pioneer taverns is attached to the Helm House, built in 1840—a real hostelry. It stood on the west side of Wayne street, between North and High, and was a long, two-story frame with several additions and back porches and wooden pumps. Back of it was a large barnyard and long stables. For miles from the west and north came the great Pennsylvania farm wagons drawn by four horses, a yoke of bells on the necks of the leaders, the owner riding one of them and with great flourish of whip turning into the barnyard. In the bar room could be seen every type of the early settler."

IN THE DAYS OF THE STAGE COACH.

Regarding the old Dieker House, mentioned above, it will be proper here to state that the historic old building which years ago was moved back off Spring street, was sold at a mortgage sale in May, 1922, and that it was sold at about two-thirds of its appraised value. It long had been abandoned as a hostelry, and is now occupied as a rooming house. This hotel in the palmy days of the stage lines was a companion to the old Wapakoneta House, previously mentioned, the first inn erected at Wapakoneta and which gave way after the Civil war to the Burnett House which is still doing business at the county seat. Concerning this stage line, an advertisement

in the *Democrat* (Wapakoneta) in 1865 carried the information that the stage "leaves St. Marys at 6:45 a. m., 9 a. m. and 1 p. m.; leaves Wapakoneta, 6:25 a. m., 10:45 a. m. and 2:45 p. m." An advertisement of the Dieker House carried in the *St. Marys Courant* as late as 1873 set out that there was an "omnibus line and good livery exchange stables connected with this house," while in the same paper Fred Dieker's advertisement of his livery and feed stables connected with the Dieker House announced his proprietorship of "a nice hearse, carriages and spring wagons for use at funerals," as well as the "daily buss line from St. Marys to Wapakoneta and Celina and return. Passengers can be forwarded on arrival of busses to any part of the country at any hour." The Hotel Fountain occupying the site of the old river wharf was erected in 1888.

In closing her interesting reminiscences, Mrs. Touvelle presented a brief list of St. Marys "firsts," including the first minister, the Rev. J. B. Finley, 1827; the first resident lawyer, E. M. Phelps, 1836; first resident physician, R. W. Stearnes, 1836; first store keeper, Peter Vanosdoll, 1827; first blacksmith, Capt. John Elliott, 1824, and first harness maker, William Breckon, 1839. She concludes her illuminative little tale of the olden days with the observation that "the strongest associations which attach to St. Marys and are precious memories to her children and her children's children are the river and the beautiful springs on the Westside. They well remember the spring at the foot of the bluff by the river bridge, where the water was cool, plentiful and delicious; and they remember that a little farther north there was a spring almost hidden among rough stones, and they have not forgotten the little stream just touched with sulphur that flowed from the spring near the old brewery; and also that between them all were the deep, dark pools, where the unsuspecting minnow and sunfish dwelt. Farther down they remember the 'Ripples' where the river widened and the shallow, pebbly bottom was a ford and watering place and where the venturesome small boy found a safe swimming place. Nor have they forgotten the great elms and willows that grew on either side of the river,

whose branches, hanging low over the rippling stream, cast the cool shadows which made them the favorite trysting place of many long since gone away." Gratifying to relate, many of these magnificent trees still adorn the river banks.

OLD CHARLEY MURRAY.

The name of Charles Murray ("old Charley") has been mentioned often in this chronicle. "Old Charley," who must be regarded as "the father of St. Marys" and who despite his Scottish name is sometimes referred to as a French trader and by one reviewer as an Irishman was on the scene there at St. Marys when the historic treaty at that point in 1818 opened lands thereabout and over to the west in Indiana to settlement and had been there for years carrying on a trading business with the Indians, he having been the successor to the infamous James Girty, brother of the equally infamous Simon Girty, whose earlier trading post there had given the place its original name of Girty's Town. When the treaty was concluded and the troops were removed from old Ft. St. Marys, Murray continued on the scene, carrying on his trade with such settlers as slowly came in or with hunters and adventurers passing through, so that by the time the place came to be recognized as the nucleus of a town he had become well established and was known throughout all northwestern Ohio and eastern Indiana. As has been mentioned above, he created an informal town site there in 1820, but it was not until three years later in the summer of 1823, that he and his associates got for St. Marys an official place on the map.

The plat book in the office of the county recorder in the court house at Wapakoneta reveals that the original plat of the city of St. Marys was surveyed for Charles Murray, William A. Houston (the surveyor) and John W. McCorkle on August 8, 1823, and was filed for record with the recorder of Darke county, "to which the county of Mercer is at this time attached," on the following August 20. This original plat carries sixty-eight lots of one-half a block each, beginning

with No. 1 in the southeast corner of the plat and running to 68 in the southwest corner, all lying in section 3 of township 6, south of range 4 east. The plat contains a square in the approximate center reserved for court house purposes, "should the seat of justice of the county of Mercer be located in said town," and two lots also were "set apart and donated by the propositors to any regular organized society of professing Christians that may erect thereon suitable churches." North street forms the north line of the plat, Front street, so named from its position facing the river, on the east, South street on the south and Perry street on the west, the plat being laid out more with respect to the course of the river than to the points of the compass, a variation of 30° west of north, "according to the magnetic variation", being noted on the plat. High street and Spring street are the intermediate east and west streets and Main and Wayne streets the intermediate north and south streets, while Wharf street is noted as an eastern extension of Spring street to the river. When the bridge was thrown across the river, as mentioned above, the town began to grow east, as well as on the west side of the river, and as population increased and need of corporation extension demanded, additions were made to this modest original plat until now the city limits take in all of section 3, one-fourth of section 2 and a fraction of section 11, nearly half of section 10, one-eighth of section 9 and one-fourth of section 4. According to the list of taxable lots in St. Marys returned for taxation by the lister in June, 1824, the year following the filing of the above original plat, Charles Murray owned sixteen of these lots; James Lord, one; Leander Houston, one; James Miller, one; John Manning, thirty; William A. Houston, sixteen, and Christian Benner, three. The valuation of the lots was placed at \$1 each and they were taxed at the rate of 5 mills to the dollar, or a total of 34 cents for the entire town site. In 1903 St. Marys, previously incorporated as a village, became incorporated as a city.

THE PIONEER MILL OF CHRISTIAN BENNER.

The Christian Benner above noted as one of the owners of lots in the town in 1824 was the miller, who had come in about that time and had set up a small grist mill, run by horse power, perhaps finding this more economical and convenient than the erection of a water mill with its attendant dam. In the Linzee collection referred to elsewhere in this work there is a pencil drawing by A. J. Linzee of the old Benner horse mill which was standing there when the Linzee family came up here in 1831. This drawing shows a square structure a story and a half in height, with a wide door and three windows at the front, one of these windows lighting the half story. At the rear there is a small "lean-to" which is indicated as the "power house," evidently the shelter for the patient animals that operated the treadmill. The main part of the building is indicated as the "grist room," and a notation on the sketch locates the structure as having stood on Spring street. A fence corner shown at the opposite side of the street would indicate that the pioneer mill probably (and reasonably) occupied a position at the intersection of two of the highways of that period. Benner was listed for taxation on lots 7, 8 and 17, which cover the east side of the block facing Front street south of High street to the alley and the north half of the block facing High street between Front street and Main street, hence it might be assumed that this mill occupied that site, a square west of the High street bridge across the river, though this does not agree with the Linzee reference to Spring street, nor with the well defined local tradition amounting almost to positive assurance that the Benner mill occupied the site now occupied by the First National Bank of St. Marys at the southeast corner of Spring and Front streets, which would be a likely site for a mill, there on what then was the brow of the river bank leading down to the wharf. Christian Benner lived to be an old, old man and his last days were spent in his pleasant home on South Main street, south of Market street, opposite the pres-

ent handsome home of Albert Herzing. His mill probably served well the pioneer needs of the community, but in good time it was succeeded by mills of ample capacity to take care of the growing trade, one of the best of these having been the Reservoir mill established by Scott, Linzee & Co. in 1847, the year before the erection of Auglaize county, and presently taken over by Robert B. Gordon, which mill (with modern extensions and improvements) is still in operation, and St. Marys thus early became widely known as a milling point.

ORGANIZATION OF MERCER COUNTY.

It was in June, 1824, the year following the platting of St. Marys, that the county seat was established there, Mercer county then deciding to have a nearer point for the transaction of its civil business than at Greenville, the county seat of Darke county, to which Mercer had been attached for civil purposes. John P. Hedges was appointed by the commissioners of the new county to act as treasurer and he appointed Samuel Hanson to be collector of taxes, it being noted on the record of the commissioners for Mercer county that "the said Hanson agreed to collect for \$5 all the taxes of Mercer and VanWert counties." W. B. Hedges was the auditor of the new county and his notation on the record has it that "the above business was done before David Hays and Solomon Carr, commissioners of said county; which I do certify is a correct proceedings of all business ordered by said commissioners to enter on said day's proceedings." The records of the auditor's office as of that same day (June 7) show that to John Dougerty, Asa Coleman and Samuel Newell were issued orders for \$42, \$36 and \$33 respectively "for locating seat of justice," and thus St. Marys became the county seat, an eminence maintained until deprived of its position by Celina in 1840.

On the following October 12 (1824), an order was issued to Isaiah Dungan "for listing and appraising property in St. Marys township, \$1," and an order to Judge James Wol-

cott "for services rendered in opening last election returns, \$2.50." Among other orders issued by the commissioners on the auditor was that of the following December 10 to Joseph Steward "for surveying the State road from Sidney to St. Marys, \$6.12½," and on the same day orders were issued to Asa Hinkle and John Johnson, commissioners to locate said road, for \$3.90 and \$3.34 respectively, while to John Bloks and Henry Bryan, chain bearers in the survey of the road, orders were issued for \$1.67 each. On the following March 5 (1825), Joseph D. Blew was allowed 75 cents "for carrying chain in surveying town lots in St. Marys" and James W. Riley was allowed \$1.50 "for surveying town lots in St. Marys," while to Robert Linzee a claim of \$10 was allowed "for services as judge of common pleas in November term," and on the same day an order was issued to Caleb Major in the amount of \$1.75 "for services as blazer on State road from Mrs. Flinn's to Waupaughkonetta (sic) out of Allen county funds." Certainly the demands on the treasury for public service do not seem to have been unreasonably high in those days.

It was on Saturday, June 11, 1825, that the commissioners, Isaiah Dungan, Ansel Blossom and Solomon Carr, "met pursuant to adjournment and proceeded to take from the proprietors of the town of St. Marys a deed for the lots donated for county purposes. They also appointed Thomas Scott agent to sell and convey the lots (Nos. 1, 7, 15, 25, 33, 35, 39, 44, 48, 57) on the following conditions: one-third in hand; one-third in one year, and one-third in two years." It then is recorded that after a division of the lots by the commissioners they set apart fifteen lots on which to build public buildings, the proceeds of the other fifteen lots to be used for other county purposes. On that same day the commissioners received the resignation of W. B. Hedges and appointed David Armstrong to succeed him as county auditor. Evidently there presently was trouble in the treasurer's office, for a notation as of June 5, 1827, sets out that "the commissioners met pursuant to adjournment and proceeded to settle

with the treasurer for Mercer county levee, and received \$52.57, leaving a balance of \$94.05 which could not be accounted for; also \$35.83.7, the whole amount of the State and canal tax, for which he could not account." It then was noted that the treasurer was allowed until November 1 following to prepare for final settlement and the commissioners "then appointed Robert Bigger treasurer, who gave bonds to the sum of \$1,000 according to law." In an earlier chapter in this work there are given further details concerning the time when St. Marys occupied the position of county town, with descriptions of the old court house and jail and of the court there held in pioneer times.

THE OLD COUNTY SEAT "WAR."

The story of the claim of St. Marys for a resumption of county seat honors when Auglaize county was erected in 1848 and of her disappointment in that direction has been told elsewhere. It is an old story to which some mystery seems to have attached from the beginning, and even to this day is told with variations. Many at St. Marys insist that ballots that would have shown a public preference to the site at the western edge of the county were stolen. The commissioners' records, set out elsewhere, make no reference to what perhaps at the time was a pretty warm local row, simply dealing with the Wapakonetans' payment of \$5,000 for public buildings. The Sutton review of 1880, written about thirty years after the dispute, does not clear up the mystery of the missing or "manipulated" returns, the story there being told as follows: "At the organization of the county a strife arose between St. Marys and Wapakoneta for the location of the seat of justice. The former, as the oldest town, located in the more populous portion of the county, urged these facts as grounds for priority. The latter urged geographical advantages, being more centrally located, and thus entitled to priority. The claims of both were well founded, and with this status the question was submitted to the people. There was

little doubt of the ascendancy of St. Marys, as the populous settlements in the south were favorable to her interests, while Wapakoneta was largely dependent on the more sparsely populated section of the east. When the question was thus submitted to the voters of the county, German township (then including also Jackson township), holding the balance of power between the rival factions, was generally conceded to have favored St. Mary's, but by some manipulation of the returns they were never handed in with those of the other townships and Wapakoneta, in the absence of these returned, had a decided majority and thus secured the prize. It is impossible to determine what the result would have been had this self-disfranchised township expressed its real sentiment, but it is evident that it lay in its power to dictate between the rival towns. This rivalry, naturally enough, developed into enmity and this, in turn, has retarded the progress of both towns. Perhaps the most prominent illustration of the evil results produced was in the case of the P., F. W. & C. R. R., which was driven from the county by the jealousy of these two towns." The review of this situation made by Professor Williamson is given elsewhere, in connection with the story of county government. As will be recalled, he has it that over night "the returns from German township were taken from the files by some one and could not be found," but that they were restored "some time in the year 1849."

PIONEERS WHO LACKED FORESIGHT.

While the above statement regarding the loss to this community of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago railway doubtless is true, the main reason of the county's failure to secure the construction of that road through Auglaize county was the inability of its more prominent citizens to look into the future and to visualize what the construction of the new road (now the main line of the great Pennsylvania system) would mean to the county. Unfortunately they did not have a vision. They thought only of immediate conditions. To

illustrate: John C. Bothe, who had a warehouse in Wapakoneta and did an extensive business in grain and was quite well off in the matter of worldly goods, refused to give aid to the building of the road for the reason that he would lose some grain trade, apparently never thinking that his loss in that direction would more than be made up by the advanced value of his real estate. When asked to subscribe a reasonable amount of stock to aid in securing the road, he said: "I will not subscribe anything. If the road is constructed through the county by way of St. Johns, Wapakoneta, Moulton and St. Marys it will be but a short time until grain warehouses will be erected at St. Johns and Moulton and our grain trade will be cut off from the east and the west. If they want to build the road let them go ahead, but I will give nothing."

Joseph Kelsey, who was doing an extensive retail and jobbing business in general merchandise on the west side of the canal on Spring street in St. Marys, was equally short-sighted. When appealed to to give aid and encouragement to the building of the proposed railway, he said: "I will not give much toward the construction of a railway east and west through Auglaize county. St. Marys has the Miami & Erie canal and that is good enough for me."

Those who were enthusiastic supporters of the project lost heart on account of the failure of some of the more prominent citizens to give aid and encouragement to the enterprise, with the result that the effort was a failure. It was a well known fact that the promoters of the road preferred the route through Auglaize county, for various reasons, but that knowledge did not deter them from making the effort. Fortunately for Lima and Allen county their business men and more prominent citizens were wise enough to look into the future and to see the possibilities of great gain in population and consequent increase of values and material prosperity if they secured the road. With intuitive foresight they effected an organization and went to work with a will and a determination to win, and their efforts were successful.

If the well-to-do citizens of Auglaize county, especially in Wapakoneta and St. Marys, had put forth the proper effort and thus have secured the road both St. Marys and Wapakoneta today each would likely have a population of 30,000 or more. Property owners could have aided in securing the road, even to the amount of half the value of that they possessed, and have bettered their condition.

FRIENDLY FEELINGS FOSTERED BY NEWSPAPERS.

Despite the traditions of rivalry that seem to persist between the towns of St. Marys and Wapakoneta, the county seat newspapers apparently always have sought to speak well of the neighboring town and have ever displayed a friendly attitude toward that place, as witness the following from the old Wapakoneta *Republican* of May 14, 1851, George W. Andrews then having been editor of that paper (now the *Democrat*). Under the heading "St. Marys," the editor of the *Republican* observed that "we made an agreeable visit a few days since to our little sister town, St. Marys. While there we noticed many substantial evidences of improvement—buildings in process of erection, plans for street improvements, etc. In the way of accommodations for the wayfaring public there are some two or three good hotels, with fine, sprightly, gentlemanly and very good looking landlords. They are always provided with what makes the stomach as well as the heart glad—no disciple of Epicurus can gainsay this. The business men are quite pleasant in all their intercourse—have cultivated habits that cannot fail to please; and last, though not least, the town in miniature is said to contain as many pretty, bright-eyed, rosy-lipped ladies as any little village hereabouts (of course we except Wapakoneta in this and all things else, when compared with other places). All things considered, St. Marys is considerable of a little town and when it shall be connected with Wapakoneta by the plank road now in course of construction, the place will be greatly benefited by the influence of the county seat, just

as the smaller satellites are benefited by the controlling influence of the superior planet. We think the day is not far distant when St. Marys may in some things even compare with our own Wapakoneta. If a good, clever, upright set of people can obtain that great desideratum, she will stand a good chance of it."

Another evidence of this friendly attitude on the part of the press of the county seat is disclosed in the following little item from the *Democrat* (Wapakoneta) of August 24, 1874, more than twenty years after the above was written: "We almost envy the people of St. Marys their clean, beautiful streets and alleys. The town has an air of neatness and comfort always; then too, you never fail of finding good, pleasant people when you go there, whatever your business. We can't explain why, but certain it is, we feel quite at home whenever we visit the town. A good deal of manufacturing is carried on there, but a great volume of water unused wastes away every year. Why don't capitalists from a distance away go there and invest in manufacturing? No better inducements can be found anywhere."

This was the picture of St. Marys painted by a friendly visitor at a time that may be regarded as the close of the pioneer period there and throughout this section. St. Marys even then was laying plans for commercial and industrial expansion. It had its own newspaper, Ed Walkup's *Courant*, and was amply able to speak for itself. Its wood working industries were beginning to develop and it had one of the best flour mills in northwestern Ohio, the old Reservoir mill, as well as its celebrated Farina mills which Philip von Herzing had established there in 1855 and which by the time the above was written had attained a wide reputation throughout this region, besides the woolen mill erected in 1866 by William Gibson and later taken over by a local stock company, and regarded then as one of the most substantial industrial enterprises (even as it is today) along the whole course of the canal. Two years later, in the fall of 1876, E. M. Piper, who then was president of the company operating the woolen

mill, Albert Althausen and Fred Dieker started the first bank in the town, the Bank of St. Marys, a partnership concern, and in 1879 erected a bank building which perhaps may be regarded as the forerunner of the rebuilding program which during the '80s and '90s resulted in the practical reconstruction of the business section of the city along modern and substantial lines. The Bimel woodworking and carriage factories were running then on a basis which carried far the reputation of their products, while a whipstock factory (Woolworth & Cowles) was turning out whipstocks at the rate of more than 350,000 a year. In 1876 Christian Buehler established his machine shop and foundry, the first concern of its kind in the county, and other manufacturing enterprises began to be attracted to the place, so that by the time the "gas boom" came on in the late '80s St. Marys was quite ready to take proper advantage of this new impetus to its growth.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL STATUS OF THE TOWN.

As the terminal point for the Toledo & Ohio Central railroad, St. Marys enjoys such advantages as this terminus gives and as the seat of the great power house of the Western Ohio electric railway, which supplies electric power and light throughout a wide territory hereabout, it enjoys an additional advantage, while its situation at a division point of the Lake Erie & Western railway is a further advantage. Among its present industries, in addition to the woolen mills and the flour mills above mentioned, are a wheel and spoke works, an extensive machine shop, a box board factory which is the successor to the old straw board company which began operation there years ago, a chain works which has been in operation there for more than twenty years, an extensive branch of a nationally known cigar factory, a carriage factory and a concern for the manufacture of farm tractors, a creamery, a lumber and finishing mill, besides numerous lesser industries, while the commercial interests of the city

are well and substantially represented, and the grain elevators provide ample grain market facilities. The city has a daily newspaper, the *Leader*, John L. Sullivan, editor.

As noted above, the first bank at St. Marys was the bank of St. Marys, founded in 1876 by E. M. Piper, Frederick Dieker and Albert Althausen. In 1887 the latter retired from the institution and the remaining partners, Messrs. Piper and Dieker, in February, 1890, reorganized the institution as the First National Bank of St. Marys, Mr. Piper being elected president; Mr. Dieker, vice president, and O. E. Dunan, cashier. Following the death of Mr. Piper in 1900, Mr. Dieker was elected president and upon his retirement was succeeded by Mr. Dunan, who is still serving as president of the bank, the other officers being D. W. Jay, vice president, and Charles H. Pauck, cashier. In 1907 this bank erected its present substantial building at the corner of Spring and Front streets, across the street from its original location. The bank is capitalized at \$60,000 and the current bankers directory shows its surplus and profits to be \$27,730; deposits, \$979,890, and resources in excess of \$986,000.

It was in 1890, the year in which the First National Bank was organized, that the Home Banking Company of St. Marys (a state bank) was organized, with Albert Althausen as president, S. Bamberger as vice president and W. G. Kishler as cashier. Not long afterward Mr. Bamberger disposed of his interest in the bank to John J. Hauss and C. R. Backhus and the officary was reorganized with Mr. Althausen continuing as president and John J. Hauss and Albert Herzing, vice presidents, with C. R. Backhus as cashier and H. H. Brinkmeyer as assistant cashier. Upon the death of Mr. Althausen Mr. Backhus became president and Mr. Brinkmeyer cashier, and following the retirement of Mr. Backhus, Mr. Brinkmeyer, the present president of the bank, was elevated to that position. E. M. Veenfiet is the present vice president of the bank and W. A. Mackenbach is cashier. The bank originally was capitalized at \$30,000, which capitalization was raised to \$40,000 and then to

\$100,000. The current bankers' directory shows this bank to possess resources in excess of \$1,000,000; surplus and profits amounting to \$50,000 and deposits aggregating \$950,000.

The American State Bank of St. Marys, a reorganization of the St. Marys Banking and Trust Company, organized in the summer of 1903, is capitalized at \$50,000 and according to the current bankers' directory has resources in excess of \$500,000, with deposits aggregating \$471,170 and surplus and profits amounting to \$21,740. The present officers of this bank are H. G. McLain, president; L. G. Neely, vice president, and T. A. White, cashier. The St. Marys Banking and Trust Company (present American State Bank) was originally capitalized at \$30,000, which was raised to \$50,000, and its original officers were O. E. Dunan, president; L. G. Neely, vice president; H. G. McLain, secretary, and R. B. Gordon, treasurer, with T. A. White as assistant, the other members of the directorate being Charles H. Pauck, Richard Barrington and W. F. Brodbeck.

CHAPTER XIII.

OTHER TOWNSHIPS OF THE COUNTY.

Clay township on the south line of Auglaize county (town 6, south of range 7 east) covers thirty sections numbering from 1 to 30, running five sections from north to south and six from east to west, and is thus but thirty square miles in extent. The township is crossed by the Toledo & Ohio Central railway, which enters at Santa Fe in the northeast quarter of section 25 (in the southeast corner of the township) and passes out in the northwest quarter of section 7 and on to Wapakoneta, crossing the old Detroit, Toledo & Ironton railway (the present Ford railway) in the southeast corner of section 8. This latter road traverses the township from north to south, entering at the village of St. Johns on the northern line of the township in the northwest quarter of section 5. Other villages or railway stations in the township are Geyer, in the northwest quarter of section 21 on the Ford road, a mile southeast of that road's crossing with the T. & O. C.; Gutman, in the southwest quarter of section 15, on the T. & O. C., a mile northeast of Geyer station, and Santa Fe, on the east line of the county in the northeast quarter of section 25, on the T. & O. C., a part of the latter hamlet lying in the neighboring county of Logan. Clay township is bounded on the north by Union township, on the east by Goshen township and Logan county, on the south by Shelby county and on the west by Pusheta township, and is amply drained by Blackhoof creek, Wolf creek, Pedlers run and the main branch of Pusheta creek and their tributaries, supplemented by an adequate system of ditches. The old Lewistown Indian reservation takes in parts of sections 25, 26, 27 and 28 in the southeast part of the township, and the Wapakoneta Indian reservation cut through sections 19, 20, 21

and part of section 22 on the south and down through sections 3, 10, 15 and 22 from the north, the Indian lands thus having embraced one-half of the present territory of the township in the days before its civil organization. It was there, at the present site of the pleasant village of St. Johns that old Chief Blackhoof spent his last days amid the hills and dales he loved so well, and it also was within the present bounds of this township, in the immediate vicinity of the Blackhoof lodge, on what later came to be known as the Bitler farm, that Chief Wayweleapy (Willipie) had his lodge at the time he and his people ceded their lands to the Government in 1831 and in the next year took their departure from their old hunting grounds here forever. These picturesque hills now provide an apparently inexhaustible source of gravel for the needs of the community and in the gravel pits thus uncovered it not infrequently happens that grim relics of the days of Indian occupancy are uncovered in the form of skeletons of the red men who were buried there in the days now long gone.

Prior to the erection of Auglaize county in 1848 Clay township was attached to Allen county for civil purposes and it attained its own civil status two years after the Indians had left this region, a sufficient number of settlers having come in by that time to give force to their petition for the formation of a new township, it having been a part of Union township before this time. According to the journal of the board of commissioners for Allen county this action was taken on December 1, 1834, the journal as of that date setting forth that "a petition was then presented to have original Town 6, south of Range 7 east, made the limits of their township and said township to be designated and made known by the name of Clay. Petition granted and bonds given and advertisements written for an election to be held at James H. Coleman's for township officers on the 20th inst." James H. Coleman had entered his land in section 6, the northwest corner of this township, in 1833, the year following the departure of the Indians and the year

prior to the presentation of this petition. He and Thomas Beer and John Rogers served as judges of this first township election and Richard Henry and Joel Bayliff as clerks. Besides these there were six other voters participating in the election, David Vonblaricom, William Hinton, Thomas Reed, Byrd Richardson, William Copeland and Samuel Bechdolt, and the following officers were elected: Township trustees, John Rogers, David Vonblaricom and Thomas Beer; clerk, Richard Henry; treasurer, Joel Bayliff; constable, Thomas Beer; fence viewers, James H. Coleman, Thomas Reed and Thomas Beer; overseers of the poor, William Copeland and Samuel Bechdolt—as many offices to fill as there were voters to exercise the suffrage. Originally this township (“original town 6”) included its normal lower tier of sections, but with the readjustment of county lines that presently began to take place in northwestern Ohio it lost this tier to Shelby county, and thus now has but thirty sections instead of its original thirty-six.

ST. JOHNS AND OTHER VILLAGES.

In the spring following this election, April 29, 1835, Daniel and Elizabeth Bitler and John and Mary Rogers created a town site on the north line of the township in section 5, the site of the old Blackhoof village, and as a compromise of the respective preferences the two couples held in the matter of a name for the new town named it St. Johns. The Bitlers had come in here from Franklin county in 1834 and Daniel Bitler had opened a store and blacksmith shop on the site of the old Indian village and presently also erected an inn, thus having become the first business man in the village. John Rogers was a New Yorker by birth but had been transplanted to Ohio soil when he was fourteen years of age by the coming of his parents to this state, and he grew to manhood and was married in Richland county. He and his wife came over here into the new lands in the fall of 1833, the year following the departure of the Indians, and settled in the old

Blackhoof village, Mr. Rogers—as noted above—being elected one of the township trustees in the election of the following year. He afterward served as justice of the peace in and for Clay township and lived to a ripe old age, his death occurring in the spring of 1880, he then being eighty years of age. These pioneers no doubt had a deep consciousness of the natural beauty of their town site, for St. Johns is one of the most picturesquely situated villages in this section of the state and its hills and dales when clothed in their native forests must have been a delight to the eye.

The original plat of the Bitler-Rogers village of St. Johns (or St. Johns Town, as the plat has it) was filed in the office of the recorder of Allen county on April 29, 1835, and sets out the boundaries of a tract of thirty-two lots bounded on the north by Washington street, on the east by Walnut, on the south by Spring and on the west by Mulberry, and bisected north and south by Lima street and east and west by Center street. Extensions later were made to the east, over toward the creek to which the settlers by common consent gave the name of Blackhoof, and the village gradually grew in importance as a rural social and commercial center. The Methodists effected an organization there in the year in which the village was platted and church and school were given deep consideration from the first. When the railroad came some impetus was given to the growth of the village and the extension of the grain shipping facilities was greatly appreciated. The town has two grain elevators and the proper complement of stores to meet the community demands. Its location on the Wapakoneta-Bellefontaine highway, paved with cement, places it on the line of the heavy tourist travel along this road and the picturesque situation of the village, nestling amid its hills, attracts the admiring attention of all who pass that way. The census report for 1920 gives St. Johns a population of 355.

The other railway stations in Clay township have proved convenient shipping points and local commercial centers, but have not attained much growth. The 1920 census gives Geyer

a population of 140. This place was platted by George Geyer on September 20, 1893, following the coming of the railroad, and was named by him Geyer City, the plat showing a tract of thirty-six lots divided midway north and south by the railroad—the present Ford road. Mr. Geyer had entered the farm on which he platted his townsite in 1840. The hamlet has a grain elevator and is a very convenient trading center for the people living in that vicinity.

The census of 1920 gives the hamlet of Gutman, on the T. & O. C. railway in this township, a population of seventy-seven. This convenient trading center grew up around the grain elevator and store that the Gutman brothers started on their farm following the coming of the railroad twenty years and more ago. The village of Santa Fe, on this same railroad, in the extreme southeastern corner of the township, and extending over into Logan county, was laid out on the Deloss pike by Reuben Conner in pioneer days and profited somewhat by the later coming of the railroad, but has not attained much growth. The original plat of this hamlet shows some peculiarity of lay out, the same covering a tract of fourteen parcels of land of varying dimensions, ranging from twenty-three-hundredths of an acre to one and forty-eight-hundredths of an acre. It has a grain elevator and the necessary complement of stores to meet local demands upon it as a trading center.

THE PIONEERS OF CLAY TOWNSHIP.

Concerning the days of settlement here, an interesting little sidelight is carried in the following from the Sutton review (1880), bearing on the conditions which confronted the pioneers: "The territory comprised within the township was of a low, swampy character, except along the line of the deposit ridge which crosses the northwest corner, reaching its highest and most broken point at St. Johns. Judging by the topography, there was little to encourage settlement save the richness of the soil, which is unsurpassed in the county. Still,

a rich soil under water and heavy timber presented obstacles which necessity alone was courageous enough to meet and overcome; for the writer has been told by an honored pioneer that, on his arrival here, the lack of \$10 was all that caused him to remain." To this it may be added that this no doubt was true of many a settler who would have turned and gone back to the old home upon coming over here into the new lands and finding conditions as they were if he had not exhausted his resources in making the attempt to gain a home in the wilderness and thus was compelled to stick and see it through simply because he did not have money enough to make the trip back. But time rewarded him and the rich and improved lands of this county now bespeak his honor.

When Auglaize county was erected in 1848 there were the following landowners in Clay township, according to the tax duplicate for that year: Jacob Allenbach, Amos Arthur, Daniel Apple, Joseph Allenbach, Henry Bey, John Burlean, William Brackney, Sr., William Brackney, Jr., Peter Bennett, William Bitler, Richard and H. R. Baily, Daniel and Henry Bitler, Joel and Margaret Bayliff, D. W. Barber, Charles Boden, Abraham and Rebecca Bilger, James Ball, F. K. and Joseph Bush, John Bierlain, John Bailey, Joel Babcock, Mathias Buckhart, Casper Bodenbender, Peter and Samuel Beckdolt, George Bishop, Simeon Biggs, G. W. Bodkin, Henry Baughman, M. A. Bradley, J. H. Coleman, James H. Coleman, Jr., Henry Coleman, Abner, James and Jeremiah Copeland, William C. Campbell, Eli Costle, Joseph, Madison, Amos and William Copeland, S. S. Coleman, John Copeland, David Caldwell, Henry Crowell, William Collison, William Counsellor, Jacob Chambers, Elizabeth Cloverstine, John Corder, John Collier, James Coleman, H. B. Curtis, Hamilton Davison, Jephtha and Samuel Dunlap, Otho Danderlin, Leonard Evlseizer, George Elsas, Henry Eversole, Bartlett Ellrod, James Ellison, David Eversole, Benjamin Furrow, Philip Feters, Joseph Flick, Valentine Flegel, John Foreman, William F. Frankeberger, Benjamin Faler, Resin Franks, Conrad Fry, Blazy Fisher, Ozias Falk-

ner, George Fisher, Philip Gross, Michael and Nicholas Gross and Nicholas Gross, Jr., Kaitzel Godpey, Joseph Graham, William Gunter, John Gray, George Geier, Mathias Glaser, Jacob Griffin, Richard and Willard Gunn, Joseph Gibson, Daniel Guseman, Charles Hankerson, Christopher Hohn, Lewis Helmlinger, William Hinton, David and Richard Henry, David B. Helmer, Frederick Hohn, Cynthia Harrod, Aaron Hartley, William Hamilton, William Harbst, Wilhelm Harbst, Hiram Howe, John H. F. Josting, Joseph King, M. Kinstler, Christopher Kramer, Leonard Kinstley, Zelpha Kinstley, John G. Kraus, James H. Lusk, George Linder, John Lockhard, Philip Leininger, Jonathan McCoy, John McNoble, Jr., William Miller, Martha F. Mays, John Moore, G. H. Martin, Arthur McHugh, Uri Mix, Jacob Michael, John Moore, J. D. Mefford, Elizabeth Miller, George Mink, David McKnight, Charles Martin, Doctor McMillin, Samuel McHarry, James Manning, William Milnor, John Nippgar, Catherine Neal, John Northrop, Michael Nipgen, George Newman, Enos and Thomas Oxley, Isaac Pownall, Philip Phenegan, Philip Pulfer, Albred Purcell, James Pownall, Jesse Pence, Peter Roth, D. Rostorfer, George M. Ripple, John Rogers, George Ripley, Barbara Rock, Charles Reed, Jacob Rock, George Runkle, Robert Reed, Thomas Reed, Hugh T. Rinehart, David Reed, William Rock, William B. Speers, John Stull, Michael and Blazy Seiter, Jacob Snider, D. A. Schneider, George Snider, Abraham Skillman, William Staley, Ansel Sateal, John Lemon, William Spence, Joseph Schlicting, Davis Trumbo, John Tomlin, Gerhard Thusticher, Adam Vegar, John Watt, Stephen Werling, John Wiss, William Welchance, Jacob Whetstone, John Weimert, John Wagner, Joseph Wright, Andrew Walk, Joseph Wilson, Stephen Worling, Leonard Werst, Philip Wiltermule, Andrew Wagner, John Walk, Henry Yost and Michael Zwiebel.

In that portion of the town of St. Johns lying in Clay township there were at that time the following lot owners: Henry Baughman, William Brackney, Daniel Bitler, Sr., Daniel Bitler, Jr., Benjamin and John Corder, Jacob Flegel,

L. G. Moorehead, John Rogers, J. M. Shaw, D. A. Schneider and Benjamin Vantress.

GERMAN TOWNSHIP AND NEW BREMEN.

German township, so named on account of the nativity of the dominant element of its early settlers, a racial dominance which still is maintained, is the northern half of township 7 south, range 4 east, its sections numbering from 1 to 18, three miles north and south and six miles east and west, and thus covers eighteen square miles of surface, one of the richest agricultural sections of the county. This township originally included all of the above congressional township and so continued until in 1858, when by mutual consent a division was made and the lower half of the township was given a separate civil status under the name of Jackson township. Most of the land in this township was included in the canal donation and it was quickly taken up when the tide of emigration set in up this way in the early '30s, following the departure of the Indians from this section of the state. The township is bounded on the north by St. Marys township, on the east by Shelby county, on the south by Jackson township, which it formerly included, and on the west by Mercer county. Here rise the south branches of the St. Marys river, forming the headwaters of that stream, which drains most all but the west tier of townships, these latter being drained into the Wabash, with some drainage to the south into the Miami. These tributaries with a complete system of ditches afford ample drainage to the lands of the township. Near the geographical center of the township, in sections 10, 11, 14 and 15, is the town of New Bremen, the site of numerous thriving industrial concerns. The township is crossed from north to south by the St. Marys-Minster division of the Lake Erie & Western railway and by a similar division of the Western Ohio electric line, as well as by the Miami & Erie canal, all these passing through New Bremen.

Township 6, south of range 7 east (German township), formerly was a part of Darke county and when Mercer county was given its civil status in 1824 was annexed to this latter county and so remained until the time of the erection of Auglaize county in 1848 when it became a part of this county. It retained its original proportions until in 1858, when Jackson township was set off, this action taking the lower half of the township. The first settlers of this township were "squatters" who followed along up the Miami to the headwaters of this stream at old Ft. Loramie, hunters and trappers whose adventurous life fit in well with that of the Indians who then inhabited this region and who as adventurers or traders found plenty of activity along the line of the portage between Loramies and St. Marys, this portage following the old Wayne Military trail up through the township, which trail in due time became somewhat further dignified by the name of the Piqua and St. Marys road, which later became the line of survey for the Miami & Erie canal through this county. After the treaty at St. Marys in 1818 and the opening of lands hereabout to settlement in 1820, there were some inquiries at the land office at Piqua concerning lands for settlement this far north, but the wild state of the country and the continued presence of large numbers of Indians on the Wapakoneta reservation did not offer much encouragement to settlers and there was no practical movement made toward settlement until after the departure of the Indians in 1832.

THE COMING OF THE BREMEN COMPANY.

It was in the following year (1833) that the interesting colonization plan of the Bremen Company, one of the numerous colonization societies organized at Cincinnati for the purpose of taking care of the land needs of German immigrants who at that time were coming to America in large numbers following the unsuccessful revolution of 1832, resulted in the settlement of the colony of Germans at Bremen (now New



Street View in New Bremen.



Street View in New Bremen.

Bremen). It is narrated that originally there were thirty-three members of this company, Germans who had gone to Cincinnati upon their arrival in this country in 1832, and that they organized as the Bremen Company, in honor of the city from which they had come. These land seekers, prominent among whom were Frederick Henry Schroeder, A. F. Windeler, Philip Reis, Christian Carrmann, F. Steiner, F. Neiter and J. B. Mesloh, appointed Schroeder and Windeler to "spy out the land" with a view to the selection of a suitable place of settlement. These two men proceeded on up the Miami valley, having in mind a location some place in Ohio, and even took a turn over into the new lands section of Indiana, and then hearing good word concerning the portage strip up here on the "divide" examined the site at what is just about the summit of the divide between St. Marys and Loramies and decided there to "pitch their tents" along the line of the old military trail. They reported to the land office at Piqua and make entry to a tract of ten acres covering the site of their proposed colony, paying for the same \$1 an acre, and Windeler went back to Cincinnati to report.

Schroeder secured the services of Robert Grant, surveyor of Mercer county (these lands at that time lying in Mercer county) and had the town site platted in his name as agent for the Bremen Company, this plat being recorded on June 11, 1833. The original town site, to which the name of Bremen was given, consisted of 102 lots, each 66 by 300 feet, with a reservation on the west edge of the plat for "public square and church yard," "with a stone planted on the northeast corner of the same." Under the terms of the company's agreement each member of the colony was to receive one lot, the apportionment to be made by "lot" in order to obviate any difficulty on account of supposed differences of value, and the remaining lots were to be sold at \$25 each. It is narrated that immediately upon Windeler's return to Cincinnati with his report that a town site had been selected six members of the association returned with him to Bremen and that they were fourteen days in making the trip.

Meanwhile Schroeder had secured the erection of a log cabin twelve by fourteen feet in dimensions for the initial shelter of the new colony and when the first detachment of this group of homeseekers arrived on the scene the tract was cleared and other cabins erected for the reception of the families who in due time followed the leaders of the colony and all hands buckled down to the task of making the wilderness habitable. And it was thus that New Bremen had its beginning. Simultaneously with this colonization movement a similar colony was being organized at Minster, in this same township (of which further mention is made under the head of Jackson township) and German township thus early became one of the most populous and progressive centers of what later came to be organized as Auglaize county.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE PIONEERS.

An older chronicle relating to the beginning of the Bremen colony has it that "the houses were covered with clapboards and left so open on the sides that the deer are said to have approached them and attempted to eat straw from the improvised beds through the openings between the logs. It is also related that on one occasion while Mohrman was hewing one end of a log a fox approached and stole a chicken which had hopped on the other end of the log. Here, as in other new settlements, much difficulty was experienced in obtaining supplies, as they were only to be secured at a distance of twenty-three miles. [From this statement it seems apparent that these new settlers preferred Piqua as a trading point to the nearer towns of St. Marys and Wapakoneta, both of which by this time had become pretty well established trading centers and the former of which at that time was the county seat of Mercer county.—Ed.] Even in the matter of flour, the settlers were sometimes compelled to the use of the home-made grater. [Note—Christian Benner's mill at that time was in operation at St. Marys, less than ten miles away; the old Quaker mill at Wapakoneta still was in inter-

mittent operation, and it is quite likely that the old mill at Loramies also then was in operation.— Ed.] In 1833 new immigrants arrived and a building was erected at a cost of \$40 to supply the place of both church and school. These settlers were all Protestants, whose first minister was the Rev. L. H. Meyer. During the summer of 1833 several families arrived from Bavaria, among whom were Maurer, Paul and Braun.

“Thus the settlement had grown until the arrival of Charles Boesel, who found thirty-five families within a radius of five miles. There were at that time but six houses within the limits of the village. So insignificant was the place that Mr. Boesel stopped to inquire of a woodchopper the distance to Bremen and was told that he then was in the town. The surroundings were so unpromising that he decided to go to Ft. Wayne. After a period of nineteen months he returned and found very material progress had been made, among which were separate buildings for church and school. Even at this time some of the farmers became discouraged by having their crops eaten by deer and other animals. The community was still almost isolated, as it had little facility for communication. In support of this it may be related that a man named George Garver walked to Piqua, a distance of twenty-three miles, and returned the same day, carrying a No. 7 plow the whole distance from Piqua.” Charles Boesel, above referred to and who may be regarded as the real promoter of the business life of New Bremen in pioneer days, started his store there in 1836 and was ever thereafter a leader in commercial activities at that point. He was a Bavarian by birth and was eighteen years of age when he came to this country in 1832. During the Polk administration he was appointed postmaster at New Bremen and held that office for nine years, the postoffice being carried on in his store, and also served for two terms as a commissioner for Mercer county. Upon the completion of the canal in 1845 he erected a warehouse at New Bremen and enlarged his business to include grain shipping and pork packing, his ware-

house being used as a packing plant during the winter months when the canal was closed to navigation, and during the middle '50s he also served as one of the superintendents of the canal, acting under the State board of public works. During the Civil war period he was Auglaize county's representative in the State legislature and for four years during the '70s he served as State senator from this district. In 1866 he started a private bank at New Bremen and the Boesel interests continue largely represented along that line at that point today.

GRADUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN.

It was in 1835 that the name of the town of Bremen was changed to that of New Bremen. This was upon the establishment of the postoffice there, when it was found that there was another Bremen postoffice in the State and hence a new name was given. After canal activities had secured for the town a general expansion along commercial and industrial lines, the trend was to the east side of the canal and in the spring of 1853, Ch. Ellerman platted an addition to the original plat of the town, to which he gave the name of Ober Bremen, and it is said that there persists to this day considerable of the spirit of rivalry that sprang up between the two Bremens, with only the canal between, though the old time warmth of that spirit, which found expression in something more than mere commercial rivalry, has long since cooled and the old time line between East Side and West Side which was observed in town elections in years gone by has long been obliterated. The town was incorporated for civil purposes in 1837 and G. Klefoth was the first mayor elected. Ellerman's Ober Bremen plat was a tract east of the canal beginning at the lock at the old Koop & Tangeman mill site and including Canal street, Cherry street, Main street (the old St. Marys and Piqua road) and Walnut street, north and south, and Wine, Front, High, Pearl and South streets, east and west. Since then the corporation line of

New Bremen has been extended by successive additions until now it covers the southeast quarter of section 10, one-fourth of the southwest quarter of same, about one-fourth of the southwest quarter of section 11, one-fourth of the northwest quarter of section 14, the greater part of the east half of section 15 and one-fourth of the northwest quarter of this latter section. At Lock 2 (once known as New Paris), just northeast of town, there formerly was a busy warehouse and packing house, a mill and a store, the site giving promise during the height of canal activities of becoming an important supplemental center, but with the passing of canal traffic its dream of expansion ended, though the mill and store still are maintained.

The general industrial development of New Bremen has been a gradual and steady growth, beginning with the erection there of J. H. Kuenning's horse-power grist mill in 1835, expanding with the opening of the canal ten years later and greatly accelerated by the coming of the railroad in 1877, further transportation advantages being acquired with the building of the trolley line in 1905. During the days of canal activity New Bremen was said to have been one of the most active points for the pork packing industry outside of Toledo in the state of Ohio, and many there recall the winter days when the streets would be filled with wagons loaded with hogs brought in from all directions to the packing plants, where they would be dressed and stored for shipment when the canal would be reopened for traffic with the passing of the ice. Formerly and for many years there was a brewery there whose products were widely and favorably known. The present industries include the flour mill and the woolen mill along the canal in the center of the town, a furniture factory which specializes in the manufacture of library tables, a tool and general machine manufacturing plant whose specialty is corrugating machinery, a lumber and finishing mill whose specialty is built-in interiors, two broom factories whose products are in wide demand, a truck hoist and body plant, a plant for the assembling of steel bridge work and one of the

most extensive sawmills still operating in this part of the state. The commercial interests of the town are well organized and are ample for the needs of the town, the population of which, according to the census of 1920, is 1,502. There are two newspapers in the town, the *Sun* and the *Stern des Westlichen Ohio*; four church organizations, a local grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, a post of the American Legion, a troop of Boy Scouts, a lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Daughters of Rebekah, a lodge of the Knights of Pythias and of the Pythian Sisters and a camp of Woodmen.

There are two banks in New Bremen, both outgrowths of the old Boesel bank started in 1866 by Charles Boesel and to which reference has been made above. This bank was reorganized on May 11, 1885, as Boesel Bros. & Co., bankers—Jacob Boesel, president; Julius Boesel, cashier, and Charles Boesel, Jr., Henry G. Schmidt and William C. Schmidt. In 1905 there was organized the First National Bank of New Bremen, which, according to the current bankers directory, is capitalized at \$50,000 and reports resources in excess of \$689,000, with deposits of \$571,250 and surplus and profits aggregating \$32,632. The officers of this bank are J. H. Grothaus, president; C. V. Huenke and August Isern vice presidents, and H. F. Bienz, cashier. Three years later, in 1908, the old Boesel bank was renamed the First City Bank of New Bremen. According to the bankers directory this latter bank, which is capitalized at \$10,000, has resources in excess of \$590,000 and deposits aggregating \$568,730. Adolph Boesel is president of the City Bank and G. A. Kuenning is the cashier.

As has been set out elsewhere, the scourge of cholera which swept up along the line of the canal during the early days of the operation of that waterway took a terrible toll among the citizens of German township in the late '40s and early '50s and it is related that no fewer than 150 persons in this township died from the dread disease. It was about this time that considerable excitement was created in the New Bremen

neighborhood by the word that a colony of freed negroes was to be established on lands bought by Connecticut parties over in the Carthagena neighborhood west of the village. The way the story goes "the free negroes arrived at Cincinnati in midsummer (1848) and were transported by canal boats as far as New Bremen, where the citizens prevented their landing. Every adult male citizen in the village served on the picket line for two days, at the end of which time the boats returned to Cincinnati with their 400 passengers. After their return to the city they separated into parties and settled in Shelby, Miami and Warren counties." There formerly were a few families of negroes on small farms over west of New Bremen, but none ever got a foothold in the village. The lands that had been bought for the freed slaves in Mercer county were years afterward in litigation and it was long before title eventually was quieted.

EARLY LANDOWNERS OF ORIGINAL TOWNSHIP.

The tax duplicate for 1848, the year in which Auglaize county was erected, shows that at that time there were the following landowners in German township, though it must be borne in mind that what is now Jackson township was included in German township at that time, the separation not taking place until by an act of commissioners of 1858 Jackson township was given its separate civic identity: John G. Ankerman, George Aldhoff, B. H. Ahdelmeyer, John B. Albers, Bernard Arms, Christian Ankenman, Johannes Antoni, D. C. L. Ahlers, Bernard Bussing, Jacob Baker, Frederick Bambauer, Frederick Brambrink, Casper H. Bocrath, J. Bussing, Henry Black, John F. Bosche, E. H. Burgman, Henry Brandewie, Anton Brandewie, Henry Barhorst, B. H. Borgman, H. G. Borgenbrock, William Berner, John H. Berner, H. H. Berner, Charles Brunes, C. H. Baker, Christian Boesel, Charles Boesel, Bernard Brune, B. H. Busse, A. H. Brugeman, Frederick Blase, Henry Brochamp, John D. Bucker, William Beckman, Adolph Buhl-

man, Mary Buhlman, C. L. Buhlman, J. F. Beckman, John H. Bord, John B. Behrnes, ————— Brunsmith, Joseph Bissing, Francis Barkman, Francis Bushman, Henry Beckman, H. H. Bausman, John H. Bromlage, E. Brown & Sons, John Breitenour, Henry H. Bosche, Francis Buschman, Frederick Baker, — Bornhorst, Bosch, Tange-
man & Koop, John M. Drees, C. S. Dusterkotter, Henry A. Deeters, J. H. Dickman, Bernard Danneman, Henry Dam-
meyer, F. H. Dickman, H. H. Duhme, Henry Danerberg, Henry Dorson, G. H. Dwenger, Augustus Dorson, Gottlieb
Dryer, ————— Dickman (heirs), Adelheid Clement, Henry Eneking, John F. Eneking, John H. Eneking, Joseph Ene-
king, G. H. Elerman, B. H. Flashkamp, J. H. Fornholt, H. H. Fornholt, J. B. Frederick, Feltman & Co., John M. Funk,
John H. Feltman, G. H. Feltman, Clemens Freeling, B. H. Freeling, Albert Freeling, Nicholas Fullenkamp, J. F.
Fannaman, Michael Fishback, John B. Fosche, Everhard Flickey, William Finke, Clemens Frilling, Peter Geib,
Catherine Garbrink, Andrew Garbrink, N. J. Goldshat, Christian Graber, H. H. Gille, John W. Gosman, Luckman
Gerhard, Andrew Gast, Peter Gast, Charles Gospohl, Henry Grieshoff, Herman Gerker, H. H. Gunkenmeyer, —————
Gorman, Mathias Gerker, H. A. Glasey, ————— Gordier,
J. B. Helbush, John C. Holdman, George Hershfeld, Clement Hershfeld, B. W. Huckereider, J. Huckereider, Henry Heit-
kamp, John Heitkamp, Diederick Hinders, Henry Heinefelt, Henry Helmsink, J. H. Honebeck, Henry Hallet, Charles
Hershfeld, J. H. Hosman, Arana Hernfeld, Diederick Hone, Charles Hesecker, Bernard Heilers, H. H. Hengens, Freder-
ick Isen, J. C. W. Karman, Paulus Kummet, Gerhard H. Kizer, G. Kizer, Henry Kalverlage, Theodore Kizer, Jared
Kelsey, G. H. Knost, Jacob Koppel, A. Kramer, —————
Keitham, H. H. Klute, Frederick Keitham, Henry Klebecker, Gerhard Klepforth, B. H. Koop, William Kammann, Henry
Keller, M. D., G. W., M. J. and F. L. Koop, Gerhard Knost, F. W. Klockenbrick, H. H. Kinney, H. R. Kruse,
Henry Knopke, J. B. Kokenga, Frederick Kuhlman, John

Kemper, Joseph Kissing, B. H. Koster, Christian Kramer, John B. Leining, B. H. Lohman, Philip Lange, D. G. Lamb, Albert Lemkuhl, Henry A. Lears, Charles A. Lingleback, H. H. Lamping, Henry Lemermuhl, Andrew Leopard, G. W. Luckman, John H. Lagers, John D. Lohman, Bernard Lemkohl, H. H. Landware, Francis Lange, C. W. Langhorst, Frederick Meyer, Henry Meyer, John B. Mesloh, H. F. Muker, Jacob Metz, Hamilton Major, Henry W. Meyer, B. H. Mohrman, G. Mohrman, Jacob Mour, Charles Mour, George Mour, Frederick Miller, J. J. Meyer, D. Menkhous, Henry Muhle, Lewis Meyer, B. Meyer, John W. Menke, Bernard Meyer, Henry Muirs, John H. Meyer, John C. Mohrman, Joseph Meysing, Jacob Metz, Gottlieb Neitert, John Neiter, G. H. Neiter, John W. Neuman, Henry Neismeyer, Stephen Northoff, B. H. Neiberg, John L. Neiswenger, Chas. Neitrich, B. Ortman, Gerhard Osterfelt, John C. Oberwitte, H. H. Oberwitte, Peter Opdike, John A. Osterloh, Theodore Oldiges, B. H. Ostendorf, John H. Pelzer, Adam Paul, John H. Paul, John Paul, F. L. Pohlman, Bernard Planke, H. H. Pansher, Bernard Panning, J. R. Pulsdorfer, Henry Paul, H. H. Quartman, William Ruther, George M. Runager, J. B. Klein Runebaum, Henry Rolfees, Henry Rodekoe, C. H. Richten, Clement Rolfees, H. H. Rump, Oren Rump, Philip Rothous, Frederick Rumping, J. H. Runebaum, Joseph Rolfees, John B. Schmeising, John H. Steinman, E. C. H. L. Sutton, Diederick Schroader, B. F. Schroader, Bernard Schulte, Theresa Stallo, John F. Smith, H. G. Severink, J. J. Thurman, Bernard Sprock, John Sternley, Frederick Seimer, Henry Sunderman, Herman Sunderman, William Sunderman, Henry Schemiller, Isaac Statler, Peter Schneider, J. C. Sumner, F. A. Stube, John H. Schemel, Henry Steinmeyer, Henry Stollman, Rudolph Sagers, Frederick Sollman, William Sollman, J. H. Schemiller, H. W. Schowa, Casper Severing, H. H. Stueve, H. Stuckenberger, J. H. Stuckenberger, Gerhard Schilmiller, J. H. Schulter, Herman Stallo, William Scholling, H. H. Stewing, William Sunderland, Henry Schulte, ————— Schlepper, Henry Schulter,

Joseph Suerman, Bernard Smock, John W. Schelling, Peter Staub, John R. Tanke, John H. Timmerman, J. G. Tangeman, H. H. Tangeman, J. J. Taubius, William Tonius, Bernard Tape, John H. Taubling, C. F. Totgenhorst, J. H. Timmerman, H. H. Trankamp, H. F. Teaman, B. Tangeman, Bernard J. Tape, Henry Uphaus, H. H. Vornholt, F. H. Vogelsang, William Vockle, J. H. Vocke, H. Vocke, John H. Vanderheer, Joseph H. Vante, Peter VanWiddlesworth, Henry A. Wehrman, A. H. Wehrman, Frederick Wehrman, William Wittie, Christopher Wittie, J. F. Wiseman, J. R. Werbling, J. H. Wellman, E. H. Weicher, E. H. Weichman, Adam Wenner, Francis Windhorst, Henry Wendell, William Wendell, John G. Waterman, H. F. Wellman, John Wippenhorst, Francis Weiner, H. H. Walters, H. H. Westjohann, Herman W. Witthoff, Charles Wittenbrink, J. H. H. Zeigenbush.

In what is known on the original plat as the town of Bremen in this township, but which, when the postoffice there was established, took on the name of New Bremen, there were at the time the county was organized the following lot owners: C. L. Albers, Francis Abler, Christopher Brockhoft, J. F. Bosche, William Bechman, Charles Boesel, John B. Behrens, J. F. Bosche & Co., H. H. Bosche, Frederick Dubling, Henry Dannerberg, F. H. Dickman, John Ellerman, B. H. Flaskamp, John W. Fulling, Andrew Garbrick, G. H. Neheman, B. H. Huckerider, William A. Haverman, H. H. Kellerman, John C. Kuenzel, Michael Kuenzel, Frederick Kohlhorst, Gerhard Kleforth, H. H. Klute, J. H. Knost, Koop, Bosche & Koop, Margaret D. Koop, Margaret Justina Koop, Frederick Koop, Georgiana W. Koop, William Koop, H. H. Keitham, William Kamman, William Kuneman, Herman Klenke, Frederick Karrman, Victor Lambrink, H. H. Lamping, John C. Mohrman, P. G. Mourer, John Merker, H. N. Meyer, Sarah M. Meyer, B. H. Mohrman, G. H. Mohrman, B. F. Murker, William Mines, Henry Moller, Charles Nieter, J. C. Oberwitte, Peter Opdike, Henry Quillhorst, Jacob Rice, Christian Smith, William Schrawe, C. H. Schnelle, H. G.

Studheite, Charles Smith, J. V. D. Schnelle, Frederick Schulenberg, Frederick Seimer, Henry Schulenberg, Diederick Schroeder, John H. Schulte, Henry Schulte, B. F. Schroeder, L. Sulter, Henry Tapp, August Teaman, Christian Totgenhorst, William Vockle, John H. Wellman, Frederick Wehrman, B. H. Weicher, William Wittie, Christopher Witte, Arnold Weideman, Henry Weicher, W. Wubberling, John W. Winegar.

In the town of Minster, in what then was a part of German township, but which now is in Jackson township, there were the following lot owners at the time the county was organized: B. H. Ahldemeyer, Albert Albers, John W. Boggins, Charles Berting, B. H. Berner, J. H. Burgen, E. H. Busche, H. H. Busche, B. H. Borgman, Francis Bushman, J. H. Busse, Antone Berting, Lucas Clement, J. H. Dickman, C. H. Dickman, John M. Drees, H. H. Droop, Francis Fortman, J. B. Frederick, John Flickenstein, J. H. Feltman, Henry Frerat, Joseph Garvels, H. E. Gospohl, John H. Gossman, Casper Goer, Lewis Hute, Antone Haverback, J. H. Harkenhoff, B. Handorp, B. Hanke, J. H. Heckfort, F. Holtzgrover, S. Hinders, Theodore Hute, John Jensens, Henry Kalverlage, C. & B. Kruse, Engle Kramer, Anton Kramer, B. Kramer, B. H. Kramer, Joseph Klein, Henry Knappe, H. Knostman, Henry Klein, B. A. Kooper, John B. Leining, John Luke, Charles Lau, G. H. Luckman, G. H. Lemmermuhl, Francis Lange, Lange & Bruner, Frederick Morse, B. Manke, Frederick Meyer, John W. Menke, Bernard H. Neinburg, H. Neinburg, William Oldiges, E. M. Phelps, G. H. Paul, N. Pohlman, James M. Pilliott, John M. Pelster, H. H. Quartman, Herman Rehling, Henry Rehling, J. F. Roenkohl, Henry Rothway, O. C. Road, J. W. Riley, John Rees, John H. Schemmel, John Schemmel, Francis Sprehe, John H. Steinman, Ferdinand Stunteback, Lewis Stallo, H. F. Steinback, Henry Steinback, E. H. Schemmel, Theresa Stallo, H. H. Stueve, F. F. Steinback, G. C. Smith, William Scholling, Henry Schlater, H. Tangeman, J. J. Tobias, H. H. Treaskamp, G. H. Tangeman, H. Taubling,

Henry B. Kotter, J. H. Vocke, Henry Willoh, John B. Willoh, Bernard Waggeman, F. Witterer, — — Westbrook, John H. Willoh, B. A. Wendell, C. Willoh, Jacob Zimmer and Henry Zumbruik.

In the settlement then known as Amsterdam, in German township, but which long since lost its place on the map, there were the following lot owners listed at the time the county was organized: Richard Ames, Henry Beckman, Bernard Brewster, William Berner, William Buhlman, L. D. Dowty, the Widow Goker, J. H. Gosman, H. H. Helm, Frederick Icem, Franklin Linzee, G. H. Neiman, E. M. Phelps, H. Quelhorst, Samuel Ruckman and Frederick Snuck. There also were the following lot owners at the townsite of Mohrmansville, in this township, at that time: J. P. Friedenburger, Andrew Garbrick, Jacob Morvelius, Herman Moster and B. F. Schroeder. In this township at that time four physicians were listed for special license taxation, namely: E. A. Von-Besler, J. P. Schmieder, William A. Haverman and B. H. Nieberg.

GOSHEN TOWNSHIP AND NEW HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE.

Goshen township, situated in the southeastern part of the county, is bounded on the north by Wayne township, on the east by Hardin county, on the south by Logan county and on the west by Union and Clay townships. It is made up of the south half of sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 and all of sections 31, 32, 33 and 34 and those parts of sections 35 and 36 lying outside the Virginia military lands in township 5, range 8 east, and those parts of sections 2 and 11 lying outside of the military lands and all of sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 and the upper half of sections 7, 8, 9 and 10 of township 6, same range, all comprising approximately eighteen square miles. The township is drained by the Muchinippe and Willow branch toward the Miami river and by Wallace Fork toward the Sciota, these two rivers thus having their headwaters in this watershed. About one-fourth of the surface of

this township originally was prairie or black muck and a review written in the late '70s said that "it is only a few years since it was covered with water and only good for duck shooting." However, the settlers about that time began to waken to the need of systematic drainage and Muchinippe creek was dredged to afford a better outlet, with the result that land which theretofore had been considered all but worthless was found to be as good as any in the county. There is little visible evidence now that any of the lands in this township ever were regarded as "worthless." The township is crossed by the Ohio Electric railway (former D. I. & I.), from Defiance to Springfield, which enters from the north in section 29, passes through the village of New Hampshire, about the center of the township, and on out in section 9. The old Wapakoneta and Belle Center pike, now paved with cement to New Hampshire and thence south and east along the embankment of Indian Lake (otherwise known as the Lewis-town reservoir) and on to Bellefontaine, is in striking contrast to the makeshifts for roads the pioneers of that region were compelled to put up with. The Sciota River ditch, the straightening of the Muchinippe and the construction of the big Willow branch and the Wallace Fork ditches back in the '70s were the beginning of the days of better things agriculturally for this township and the admirable farm plants which in every direction now dot the township bespeak the wisdom of the promoters of these drainage projects.

FORMERLY PART OF WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

Goshen township formerly was a part of Wayne township, at that time attached to Allen county, and so continued until set off to itself on petition of landowners there late in the year 1836, four years after the departure of the Indians. The action along this line is set out in the records of the board of county commissioners for Allen county as of December 5, 1836, as follows: "Bazle Day then presented a petition for a new township to be struck off of Wayne town-

ship, beginning at the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 30, in town 5, south of range 8 east; thence east to the county line between Allen and Hardin counties, thence south to Logan county line, thence west with said line to the northwest corner of Logan county, thence south to the northeast corner of Shelby county, thence west to the southwest corner of section 31 in town 6, south of range 8 east, thence north to the place of beginning. The commissioners being satisfied that legal notice had been given for the alteration, or for a new township to be struck off, granted the same petition, and the bounds of township to be described in the petition, and said township to be designated and known by No. 16, named Goshen. And that the electors of said township hold an election for township officers at Eli E. Corson's on Saturday, (the 17th of December. Advertisements written and sent by Bazle Day."

The "Bazle" Day, here referred to and whose name is found spelled variously Bazle, Basle and Basil (the latter probably being correct), had entered his land in section 33 of this township, along Willow branch in the New Hampshire neighborhood, in 1832, the year the Indians took their departure, and early became one of the leaders of this community. Immediately following the erection of this township, John Kindle, who had entered his land here in 1836, platted a town site just east of Muchinippe creek on what then was known as the Fink road, laying out a regular tract of forty-three lots, gave to this plat the name of New Hampshire, in honor of his native state, and filed the same in the office of the recorder of Allen county on March 4, 1837. This village, lying about the center of the township, became the social center for the new township and so continued, the only village in the township. It was without rail connection until the coming of the Ohio Electric traction line about fifteen years ago. The town has a grain elevator and the usual complement of stores for the trading needs of the neighborhood, and has a modern and well equipped public school building, a picture of which is presented in this work.

LARGEST FARM IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

In this township, over in the Military lands section along the eastern line of this county, is the largest farm in Auglaize county and one of the largest farms in northwestern Ohio, the great Manchester farm, which has become widely recognized as a model of agricultural management and further and fitting details concerning which are set out elsewhere in this work. J. H. Manchester, owner of this farm, was twelve years of age when his father settled there in 1865, taking over a tract of 500 acres of unimproved land, which he proceeded to develop and to which he added until at the time of his death he was the owner of 1,000 acres, to which his son has since added until now the Manchester place takes in nearly double that area. Concerning the extensive farming operations carried on in this township, a review written twenty years or more ago, observed that "the great landed estates in the prairie are unsurpassed in picturesque beauty and fertility by any other locality in northern Ohio. * * *

The great prairie and its drainage streams, in the former geological period, formed one of the five gaps in the dividing ridge of Ohio, through which the waters of the glacial sea flowed to the south. The great volume of water that flowed through the gap carried vast numbers of icebergs, loaded with great quantities of debris which was deposited as the bergs melted, forming gravel ridges along the line of the ocean current. There are evidences that there were ice gorges at the opening of the ice gap in the north and the bergs scraped and tore up the Erie clay at the bottom of the channel through the prairie. This prairie is also the source of two important rivers of the state, the Sciota and the Great Miami. The Sciota drains the greater part of the east prairie, while Muchinippe creek, head of the Miami, has been deepened and widened until it resembles a small river and drains the western prairie and adjacent territory."

AN OLDEN PICTURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

A crayon sketch of what apparently was the chief corner in the village of New Hampshire fifty years ago reveals the two-story log hotel conducted there at that time by William Gullet. Alongside the hotel, which carries a signpost bearing the legend: "Wm. Gullet, Hotel," there is a somewhat pretentious looking frame barn. At the rear of the hotel appears the well-sweep. An apparent guest of the house is seen seated on the unprotected "stoop" of the hotel, another is seated on a fence which encloses the barnlot adjoining the house, while two others are leaning against the fence, all apparently engaged in deep conversation. A traveler is approaching the hostelry on horseback and a party of four are driving spiritedly past the place in a light spring wagon behind two prancing horses. Two women are standing at the doorway of the hotel and two men are standing in the middle of the street shaking hands. The hotel is twelve logs in height, with two doors and two windows opening from the ground floor and two windows from the second story front and the same number from the second story side, with but one window in the first floor side.

A plat of New Hampshire drawn in the late '70s reveals that William Gullet was the owner of three-fourths of the block between Washington and Market streets and Main and Marion streets and that his hotel occupied the southwest corner of this block, while immediately across the street south, at the northwest corner of Main and Market streets, stood the Exchange Hotel and store of J. J. Hutchinson. It is related that the first merchants in the village were Hiram and Orin North, brothers, who later erected a mill. Hutchinson's store was established not long afterward. Both the Baptists and the Methodists effected organizations here in pioneer days. Professor Williamson's review has it that "no village in the county has attended more earnestly to the cause of education than the citizens of New Hampshire and the community immediately surrounding it." It was about

1890 that this community interest in schools thereabout led to the erection of a township high school in the village.

PIONEERS OF GOSHEN TOWNSHIP.

When Auglaize county was erected in 1848 there were the following landowners in Goshen township, according to the tax duplicate for that year: William E. Aylesworth, Henry Borton, William Black, Daniel Black, A. S. Bennett, Salmon, Sampson, Samuel and Washington Buffenberger, C. F. Beebe, Benjamin Bidwell, R. P. Bodwell, James Cramer, John Conley, Eli Carson, Ephraim Caldwell, Samuel Canada, J. J. Caswell, John Damon, Alanson Earl, John Graham, Marcus Garrett, Asa Gray, John Gilroy, Joseph Hipple, Gilbert Hurley, Solomon Hanks, Nathaniel Hunter, Jacob Harrod, Sarah A. Hutchinson, Percifer F. Hucheson, Thomas Irwin, John F. Krouskop, Henry King, James Kelley, John Kindle, Joseph Klim, William Lewis, Robert Murray, Robert L. G. Means, Ebenezer Miles, William Marquis, Milton McLean, John McLean, Jonathan and Samuel Morecraft, Elias Miller, Nicholas Martz, John and William North, Francis and John J. Nicholl, Thomas Patterson, Aaron Richardson, Edwin Stone, Christian, Philip and Sarah Smith, John W. Thomas, James Thomas, Sr., Sarah Winkley, Joseph F. Witham, Michael Waggant, George P. Williams and John Zaner.

In the Virginia military lands tract in this township there were at that time the following landowners: Green Thomas and others, the Mad River & Lake Erie Railroad Company, Valentine Peers, L. Somers, James Taylor and Wallace & Taylor, while in the town of New Hampshire in the same township there were then listed for taxation the following lot owners: Henry Barton, Matilda Blanchard, James Cramer, Elias Cline, Basil Day, John Gilroy, John Heindle, Solomon Hanks, Joseph Hipple, Nicholas Judy, R. L. G. Means, Samuel Morecraft and Adam Richardson.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP AND MINSTER TOWN.

The history of Jackson township is contemporaneous with that of German township (q. v.) until the year 1858, when the lower half of township 7 south, range 4 east, was by act of the commissioners and by the mutual consent and desire of the inhabitants of the township set off as a separate civil entity, and Jackson township thus appears for the first time on the tax duplicate of Auglaize county as of the following year, 1859, it thus having had its own local organization when the Civil war broke out. The names of the land-owners in this township at the time Auglaize county was erected in 1848 therefore must be sought in the list of such names presented as of German township, as will be noted prefatory to the presentation of that list in that part of this story relating to the latter township above.

The initial act of the board of county commissioners covering this separation is set out in the journal of the board under date of Wednesday morning, December 8, 1858, where it is recorded that "the board took up a petition signed by 134 householders residing in the southern part of German township, praying for the erection of a new township to be composed of that part of German township lying south of the section line between sections 13 and 24, 14 and 23, 15 and 22, 16 and 21, 17 and 20 and 18 and 19, and laid the same over till the next quarterly meeting of the board." Then as of date March 7, 1859, there is this notation: "The board then took up the petition of sundry householders of German township for the creation of a new township to be composed of the southern part of German township and after some time spent in the consideration of the same the board adjourned till tomorrow morning at seven o'clock."

Two days later the matter was given final consideration, as shown by the following minute of the proceedings held on Wednesday, March 9 (1859): "The board again took up the petition of citizens of German township for the creation of a new township and being satisfied that said petition is

signed by a majority of the householders residing within the boundary of said proposed change and that the notice required by law has been given, order that a new township be created out of the present township of German to be bounded as follows, to-wit: Beginning at the northeast corner of section 24, township 7 south, range 4 east, running thence west on the section line to the northwest corner of section 19, same township and range; thence south on the line dividing between Auglaize and Mercer counties to the old Indian boundary line; thence in a southeasterly course with said boundary line to the east line of section 7, township 8 south, range 4 east; thence north with said section line to the northeast corner of section 6, same township and range; thence east with the line between the counties of Shelby and Auglaize to the southeast corner of section 36, township 7 south, range 4 east; thence north with the section line to the place of beginning. And it is further ordered that said new township be known and designated by the name of Jackson."

BOUNDS OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Jackson township comprises sections 19 to 36, the south half of the original congressional township 7 south, range 4 east, and all of section 6 and all but a thin "wedge" of the north half of section 7 of township 8 south, range 4 east, which makes a "handle" at the southwest corner of the civil township. About one-half a square mile lying in sections 35 and 36 of this township is covered by the waters of the Loramie reservoir, which extends up from Shelby county almost to the southern edge of the town of Minster and offers to the people of that section of the county delightful privileges for summer resorting and fishing. This township occupies the very summit of the "divide" which separates the waters north and south through this section of Ohio and the northern part of the township thus is drained into Lake Erie and the southern half into the Mississippi. To the natural drainage of the township an adequate system of ditches has been added

and no part of the county is better drained than this, the landowners there long ago having made the most of the unusual natural advantages possessed by reason of this region's situation on the summit of the great watershed.

The township is bounded on the north by German township, on the east by Shelby county, on the south by Shelby and Darke counties and on the west by Mercer county. The town corporation of Minster, the only town in the township, covers a little more than a square mile lying in sections 26, 27, 34 and 35, with subdivisions extending on all sides, with the Miami & Erie canal cutting through the town north and south and on out into Shelby county one-half mile south of the corporation line. The St. Marys-Minster division of the Lake Erie & Western railway has its southern terminus at Minster, as also has the St. Marys-Minster division of the Western Ohio electric railway. This latter road formerly ran its cars to Loramie, a couple of miles south in Shelby county, but some time ago discontinued that service, connections with the traction cars now being made by motor bus equipped to travel on the rails of the road. During the height of natural gas and oil activities hereabout, this part of the county profited largely by the considerable number of heavily productive wells brought in there.

MINSTER—OLD STALLO TOWN.

The town of Minster, the social and commercial center of Jackson township, dates from the coming of the Stallo colony of German immigrants up here from Cincinnati in the year 1833, contemporaneous with the Bremen colony which settled in that same year just three miles farther north. These lands at that time were a part of Mercer county and had been favorably investigated by Francis Joseph Stallo, a wealthy Cincinnati man, who became the leader in the organization of his fellow countrymen and homeseekers who had gathered at Cincinnati upon coming to this country and who authorized him to purchase a tract of land equivalent to one

mile square, or 640 acres, and lay out thereon a town site, the company obligating itself to provide the funds for the entry of the land and the expenses incident to the laying out of the town. The fund thus created was entrusted to Stallo, who was authorized to enter the land in his own name, to select the town site and have the same platted into 144 lots, each of these lots to represent one share in the company. These plans were formulated during the summer of 1832 and Stallo immediately thereafter came north and at the land office at Piqua on September 8, 1832, entered the northeast quarter of section 34, the northwest quarter of section 35, the southeast quarter of section 27 and the southwest quarter of section 26 of township 7 south, range 4 east. He then reported back to his associates and a plat of this mile square was drawn up and lots cast for the apportionment of the lots to the members of the company, the drawer of each share to pay a ratable proportion of the expense to Stallo, who was to make and execute a deed in favor of each purchaser. It was this mutual plan that has given to the original plat of the town its unique character. The mile square was divided into 144 lots ranging east and west from Main street, the central north and south street, with Fourth street as the central east and west street, these lots being given index numbers from 1 to 144 and then divided into ten parts or lots, lettered respectively from a to j off of Main street on either side. It was estimated by the company that the price of each share in this company would be \$8.50, and on April 14, 1833, the members of the company got together at Cincinnati and drew their respective allotments in accordance with this plan.

Minster will be celebrating its centennial in another ten years and one of its most highly prized exhibits on that occasion undoubtedly will be the carefully preserved original draft of the town plat "laid out from (sic) F. J. Stallo" in 1833 and which now is in the possession of C. H. Dickman, of Minster, who for years has had it in his charge. Mr. Dickman was born in a log cabin at the northwest corner of Main and Fifth streets, within one square of the immediate center

of the town plat. In this cabin, one of the first to be erected in the village, it is said the first mass was celebrated when a mission church organization was effected there following the settlement of the colony. That cabin happily is still standing and is regarded as an equally priceless relic of pioneer days. Long ago it was worked over as to its interior and was given a sheathing of weatherboards, a new roof and other treatment to convert it into what now has the appearance of an ordinary cottage of that type, but the old logs are there underneath their covering and when centennial time comes no doubt still will be there to be pointed out to the descendants of the colonists who settled there in the wilderness one hundred years ago. The original draft of the town plat is on a prepared paper made up of superimposed sheets which give the appearance of vellum and apparently was drawn by the hand of a well skilled draftsman, who in ornamental letters headed his plat "Stallow's Town." Just how he came to make a misspell in the name of the townsite owner is not known, probably a phonetic error. From all other evidence Stallo never spelled his name with a w in it, as all other records carry the name without the w. This ancient document so well cared for by Mr. Dickman bears notation on the back as having been recorded in the office of recorder Riley of Mercer county on June 11, 1833.

PROVISIONS FOR PUBLIC SQUARES.

The original mile square of the town of Minster was provided with plots for "court house" and "market place" on Zweibruken street flanking Fourth street, the former of which, in the absence of the court house which the projectors of the town evidently hoped might come, is now prettily parked and in the center of which has been erected a substantial stone memorial bearing on a bronze plate the names of the young men from Jackson township who rendered service during the World war. The market place plot many years ago was used for the purpose intended and one of the first platform scales

set up in this region stood there. Later, however, it was parked and is now filled with trees of noble growth. When the city erected its waterworks plant the south end of this plot was utilized as the site for the erection of the great water tank which now stands there. Just two squares to the east on Switzer street flanking Fourth street on either side other public plots were designated as sites for church and school. These, however, were so low and swampy when it came time to erect church and school that the present church and school square on Fifth street was selected for that purpose and there is general agreement now that the change was well made.

The plat was remarkable for its systematic uniformity and regularity. The east and west streets were numbered from First street to Seventh street and the north and south streets were named Ohio, Frieburg, Frankfort, Hanover, Zweibruken, Main, Switzer, Oldenburg, Vienna, Berlin and Paris, these numbered streets some years ago being changed by order of council to Clay, Washington, Jackson, Jefferson, Monroe, Madison, Roman and Adams, though to the older residents the olden nomenclature seems more familiar. When the canal came it cut through a little to the west of the center of the tier of blocks between Frieburg and Frankfort streets and of course very materially changed the course of commercial and industrial development that had begun to make itself manifest, the canal becoming a distinct line of demarkation between an East Side and a West Side, and business buildings and warehouses took their course accordingly. There are many of these old canal buildings remaining in the town and give a picturesqueness to the scene quite reminiscent of the older days. In the spring of 1838, five years after Stallo's Town was laid out, William Benner platted a tract of twenty acres on his farm on what is referred to on the old maps as the Amsterdam road, east and west through Minster, as a town site and called it Amsterdam, evidently in the hope that a town would there grow up, but the place never secured a permanent place on the map.

Francis J. Stallo did not live to participate in the fruition of his ambition as a town builder. He died a few months after the town site had been created and the colony established and as he held title to the land and had not executed deeds to the several lot owners and members of the company in interest there was considerable confusion in effecting title. For the purpose of securing title to purchasers of these lots a bill in chancery was filed in 1836 in the common pleas court of Mercer county, then sitting at St. Marys, by John Zimmer, B. J. Feldman, John H. Pelster, Joseph Surman and others, representing the shareholders, against John M. Stallo, Lewis Stallo, Mary Ann Stallo, Theodore Stallo and Theresa Stallo, heirs of Francis J. Stallo, to determine the rights of the shareholders. It then is narrated that "the defendants, the legal heirs of said Stallo, being infants, appeared by their guardian *ad litem*, when it was ordered by the court that the defendants as they became of age should severally convey to said owners or original purchasers their respective lots of shares, and in their failure to do so within six months after attaining their majority, this decree is to operate as a conveyance." And thus individual title eventually was perfected.

HOW MINSTER GOT ITS NAME.

For some time after Stallo died the town continued to be known by its original name of Stallo's Town and it is said that the guide post at the intersection of the two highways bore the name in letters that the wayfarer could not mistake. One day, the tradition goes, the sign post was knocked over by a runaway team and was not replaced. About that time there sprang up a growing sentiment in favor of a change of name to Muenster, in honor of the old country town so dear to the memories of many of the residents of Stallo's Town, and by common consent the name was so changed, gradually coming to be Anglicised into the name of Minster, which was made the postoffice and which it was bearing officially at the time Auglaize county was erected in 1848. In



Public School Building, Minster.



Catholic Convent, Minster.

1837 certain changes were made in the survey of the original plat in order to effect a widening of some of the streets which gave promise of becoming commercially important, and still later the county commissioners added nine feet to the width of First and Seventh streets, the north and south bounds of the plat, making these roadways sixty feet in width. When the canal came along Francis Sprehe built a frame grist mill at the point where the canal feeder up from the Loramie reservoir crossed Fifth street, and this was properly the beginning of the industrial development of the place.

During the cholera scourge which swept up along the course of the canal in the late '40s and early '50s, the Minster settlement was especially hard hit. An older chronicle has it that "the people died so rapidly that immediate burial could not be given them. Theodore Dickman, then a lad of fourteen years, remembers counting twenty-six coffins setting around in the hazel bushes in the cemetery south of town awaiting interment. Joseph Bussing, from three miles west of Minster, and a number of assistants came once a week and buried the accumulation of caskets. They buried them in deep trenches four tiers deep. * * * A remarkable feature of the epidemic was that its prevalence was confined to the village and township east of the canal. No case was reported west of that waterway."

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The 1920 census gives Minster a population of 1,538, From the days when it was but a cross roads town on the Piqua and St. Marys road and the Amsterdam road it has developed into a city of considerable industrial importance. The dominant feature of the town is the great St. Augustine's Catholic church, one of the most imposing bits of church architecture in northwestern Ohio and which with the neighboring parish house and convent makes one of the most notable church plants in this section of the state. It is said that there are not half a dozen Protestants in the town of Minster and

this ecclesiastical ratio obtains pretty generally throughout Jackson township, St. Augustine's parish covering practically the whole township, with the exception of St. Joseph's parish in the Egypt neighborhood in the western part of the township.

During canal days Minster was widely known as a shipping point for grain and also as a pork-packing center. The brewery that was established there many years ago put out a product that attained a good deal more than local distribution and its old familiar label was widely known. It is still in operation, carrying the old label on a "soft" drink of the time. Its hydraulic mill was equally widely known for the quality of its flour, its brick and tile kilns and its tannery were busy and in the days before the big timber was exhausted its sawmills were constantly busy. The town has had a newspaper since the middle '70s and the *Post*, which also maintains an excellent job-printing plant, is a competent spokesman for the community. An old established creamery has for many years made Minster an important dairy center, and there is a machine shop there, whose specialty is drill presses and such like heavy machinery, that is one of the largest single employers of labor in the county. Besides the flour mill there is a box factory, a well equipped branch of a nationally known cigar factory and minor industries, while the commercial interests of the town are amply represented. The town has one bank, the Minster State Bank, organized in 1914, the president of which is J. W. Eiting; vice-president, O. E. Dunan; cashier, August Schunk, and assistant cashier, J. T. Haverbeck. This bank is capitalized at \$25,000 and according to the current bankers directory has resources in excess of \$450,000, with surplus and profits amounting to \$33,060 and deposits aggregating \$437,660.

Traditionally, Jackson township is a "rock-ribbed" Democratic township. For years, it is said, no Republican votes were cast in the township. Then, the story goes, one year the election judges found a Republican ballot in the ballot box. They were astonished, of course. Nothing like

this had ever happened before. They did not know of any Republicans in the township and therefore came to the conclusion that someone had cast the ballot by accident and threw it out. The next year, so the tale goes, two Republican ballots were found. Supposing this was a case simply of two accidents instead of one, the judges threw both of these out. The next year three ballots were treated in the same fashion, but when in the following year four ballots were found, it was decided that there hardly could have been four identical "mistakes" on the part of well meaning but careless Democrats and the ballots were counted, even as Republican ballots ever since have been counted.

LOGAN TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF BUCKLAND.

Logan civil township on the northern border of Auglaize county covers twenty-six and one-half square miles of land surface, taking in sections 19 to 36 of congressional township 4 south, range 5 east, and sections 1 to 6 and one-half of sections 7 to 12 of township 5, with the village of Buckland on the Auglaize river and the Lake Erie & Western railroad on the south edge of the township in sections 10 and 11. The river enters the township in section 11 of the lower township, winds northerly and out in section 22 of the upper township. It was along this river at the bend in section 26 that the mile-square reservation was set off to the heirs of Logan, "the good Indian" and faithful friend and ally of General Harrison's soldiers during the War of 1812, at the time of the treaty at the foot of the Rapids of the Maumee, September 29, 1817. Among the numerous individual reservations created under the terms of Art. 8 of this treaty that clause relating to Chief Logan stipulated a reservation "to the children of the late Shawnee chief, Captain Logan (or Spama-gelabe), who fell in the service of the United States during the late war, one section of land, to contain 640 acres, on the east side of the Great Auglaize river, adjoining the upper line of the grant of ten miles at Wapaghkonnetta and the

said river," and it is in further honor to this gallant Indian ally of the American arms in this country's second war for independence that Logan township bears its name.

THE STORY OF CAPTAIN LOGAN.

From the older chronicles and histories of the days of Indian occupancy it is learned that Captain Logan, as he came to be known to his white friends and whose Shawnee name is set out above in the quotation from the treaty which honored his memory, was born in the Mad river country and it is said that his mother was a sister of Tecumseh and The Prophet. He was about twelve or fourteen years of age when, along with the famed Grenadier Squaw and others, he was taken prisoner by Col. Benjamin Logan at the Macochee village, in what is now Logan county, in the campaign against the Indians in that region in 1786. It is narrated that the troops were brought to such a frenzy by the engagement that it was with much difficulty that the officers were able to save the life of the Indian lad. Gen. William Lytle, who participated in the engagement, wrote concerning the incident that "a young man by the name of Curner had been to one of the springs to drink. He discovered the young savage by my side and came running toward us. The young Indian supposed he was advancing to kill him. As I turned around, in the twinkling of an eye he let fly an arrow at Curner, for he was armed with a bow. I had just time to catch his arm as he discharged the arrow. It passed through Curner's dress and grazed his side. The jerk I gave his arm undoubtedly prevented his killing Curner on the spot. I took away his arrows and sternly reprimanded him." It is further narrated that General Logan took the boy home with him and sent him to school until "he acquired considerable education, when he gave him his liberty and his own name." And it was thus that Spamagelabe, a nephew of Tecumseh, came to the ways of civilization and to bear a white man's name.

Elsewhere in this work there are further details concerning Logan's friendliness to the whites after he became a chief of his tribe, for he rejoined the Shawnees, who had been dispersed on the Mad river and had settled among their friends at the Wapakoneta village, and became by reason of his schooling a power among them. It is fitting, however, here in the story of the township which bears his name, to set out the details regarding the death of this brave and gallant man. The story has it that General Harrison, while at Ft. Defiance in November, 1812, directed Logan to take a small party of his tribe and reconnoiter the country in the direction of the rapids of the Maumee. The chief and his scouts met a body of the enemy and were compelled to make a hasty retreat before superior numbers, being so closely pursued that they were obliged to separate. Logan, Captain Johnny and Brighthorn succeeded in making their way to General Winchester's command, and presently Logan had an interview with General Harrison concerning his escape. On this occasion General Perkins, commander of the Kentucky troops, without the slightest ground for such an accusation, charged Logan with treachery and giving intelligence to the enemy. Indignant at the unjust accusation, Logan resolved to distinguish himself in such a manner as would leave no doubt of his loyalty to the United States.

Some days later, on the 22d, Logan proceeded down the Maumee in company with Captain Johnny and Brighthorn, their route being on the north side of the river. They had proceeded about ten miles when they were surprised by a party of six Indians and a white of the name of Elliott, the eldest son of Colonel Elliott of infamous memory, this scouting party being in charge of Chief Winamac, the fiery Pottawattomie who a year before in the absence of Tecumseh in the South had precipitated the battle of the Tippecanoe, in which General Harrison forever shattered Tecumseh's hopes of effecting an Indian confederation. Logan made no resistance to capture, but with admirable diplomacy extended his hand to Winamac, who was an old friend, and told him that

he was going to the Rapids to give information to the British. Not wholly satisfied with this explanation, Winamac disarmed Logan and his companions, but after the party had proceeded some miles farther on the journey Logan had so fully impressed Winamac with his apparent sincerity that the latter restored their arms to the captives.

While they were marching Logan succeeded in communicating to his companions, Captain Johnny and Brighthorn, his plan of escape and in the evening when preparations for camp were being made and Winamac's party was off guard Logan gave the signal of attack. At the first fire two of the enemy fell dead and another was mortally wounded, this first fire removing both Winamac and Elliott. At the second fire a young Ottawa chief fell dead and another of the enemy was mortally wounded. By this time Brighthorn had received a bullet wound in his thigh and Logan received a ball just below the breast bone, which ranged downward and lodged under the skin of his back. Desperately wounded as he was, Logan ordered a retreat and he and Brighthorn seizing two of the horses of the enemy made for Winchester's camp, twenty miles away, arriving there during the night. Captain Johnny, after taking the scalp of the Ottawa chief, also retreated in safety and reached camp early in the morning. Logan lived for two days after reaching camp and was buried with the honors of war within the inclosure of Ft. Winchester. The chronicle of the incident has it that "no one more deeply regretted the fatal catastrophe than the author of the charge against Logan's integrity." Major Hardin wrote that "his death caused sorrow as generally and sincerely displayed as I have ever witnessed in the army," and with cause, for his services had been so important that the British had offered a reward of \$150 for his scalp.

"The Indian name of Captain Logan is usually written 'Spemica Lawba,' and translated 'High Horn,' but it occurs in other forms," says Jacob Piatt Dunn, of the Indiana Historical Society, who is regarded as an authority on Indian nomenclature. "The first word is the Shawnee 'spum-muk,'

which also means 'above' or 'on top.' This confusion of vowel sounds is very common in Indian names and is very natural, for the spelling is phonetic and it is often impossible to determine the short vowels."

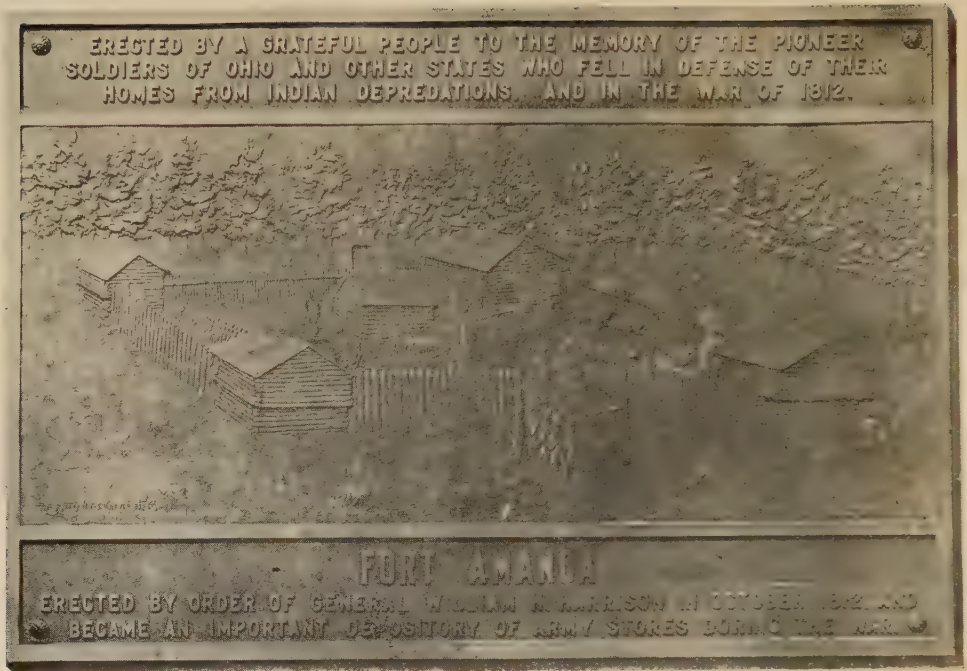
AN INDIANA CITY NAMED FOR LOGAN.

Mr. Dunn's story, "The Service of Logan," has it that "in the spring of 1828 there gathered informally at the site of Logansport (Ind.) a little knot of early settlers, and others interested; to select a name for the new town which had just been surveyed. General Tipton, who admired classic titles, proposed an alleged Latin compound said to mean 'Mouth of the Eel,' which was the name commonly given to the place at the time by the whites. Another proposed Kene-pe-cum-aqua—the common form of the Miami name of Eel river and of their old town at the mouth of that stream. Others proposed various names and finally Hugh B. McKeen, a son-in-law of Barron, the Indian interpreter who had formerly been in the Indian tribe at Ft. Wayne, proposed the name of Logan, in commemoration of this friend of the whites. The suggestion pleased Colonel Duret, who proposed that 'port' be added to round it out, and by common consent the name was adopted. And so there was given a monument more lasting than stone or bronze to this Indian soldier who died for the people against whom he had fought as a child."

Not long after the treaty of Greenville Logan had married a Shawnee woman who had been taken prisoner by Colonel Hardin in 1789 and who was living in the Hardin household at the time of the treaty. After his marriage Logan had formed a strong attachment to Colonel Hardin and upon his arrival at Ft. Winchester, knowing that he had received his death wound, he sent for Hardin and requested the latter to see that what was due him for his services should be paid over to his family, which was done. Four years later further requital was made when the mile-square reservation in what is now Logan township was made over to Logan's children.

Concerning Logan's family, Henry Howe's narrative (1846) has it that Colonel Johnston, the old Indian agent, in a communication to Howe said that "Logan left a dying request that his two sons be sent to Kentucky and there brought up and educated under the care of General Hardin. As soon as peace and tranquility were restored among the Indians, application was made to the chiefs to fulfill the wish of their dead friend to deliver up the boys for conveyance to Frankfort, the residence of Major Hardin. The chiefs were embarrassed and manifested an unwillingness to comply, and in this they were warmly supported by the mother of the children. On no account would they consent to send them so far away as Kentucky, but they agreed that Colonel Johnston should take them and have them schooled at Piqua. This being the best that could be done, in compliance with the dying words of Logan, they were taken to this point, put to school and boarded in a religious, respectable family. The mother of the boys, who was a bad woman, thwarted all the plans for their improvement, frequently taking them off for weeks, giving them bad advice and even, on one or two occasions, brought whisky to the school house and made them drunk. In this way she continued to annoy the school, and finally took them away altogether to raise with herself among the Shawnees at Wapakoneta. I made several other attempts, during my connection with the Indians, to educate and train up to civilized life many of their youth, without any encouraging results—all of them proved failures. The children of Logan, with their mother, emigrated to the West years ago and have there become some of the wildest of their race."

Concerning Brighthorn, who was severely wounded during the scrimmage with Winamac's men, it is recorded that he recovered from his wound and at the close of the war returned to Wapakoneta and re-established himself in his cabin on Quaker run, where he died about 1825. It has been written of Brighthorn that "he was a man of large stature and commanding appearance" and that "his fidelity to General Harrison and the American army was never questioned."



Bronze Tablet on Ft. Amanda Memorial Shaft.



Auglaize County Infirmary.

Big Captain Johnny, who also figured in the scrimmage which cost Logan his life, had his home on the west bank of Pusheta creek, just about where that stream empties into the Auglaize, west of Wapakoneta, is said to have been seven feet in height and "as frightfully ugly as he was large." It is said that he died about four years following the close of the war and was buried in the burial ground maintained by his people at the mouth of the Pusheta.

ORGANIZATION OF LOGAN TOWNSHIP.

Logan township, which is bounded on the north by Allen county, on the east by Duchouquet township, on the south by Moulton township and on the west by Noble and Salem townships, was formerly a part of Allen county, its lands having been included in Amanda and Moulton townships of that county. Upon the delimitation of the township lines upon the erection of Auglaize county in 1848, three tiers of sections were taken from the lower part of Amanda township and one and one-half tiers from the upper part of Moulton township and to the new township thus erected was given the name of Logan. It is in this township, on the northern border of the same, along the river at the site of the old Ottawa town in section 22 that Ft. Amanda was erected as a means of defense along the Auglaize during the War of 1812, and the site of this fort, a detailed story of which is set out elsewhere in this work, became the center of settlement of that section of the county in the days when white men came to seek their homes in the wilderness here. In the chapter relating to the settlement period the story is told of the first land entries in this township and of how the old block houses of the fort served the first settlers as places of habitation until they could put up cabins of their own and better suited to their notions of living. An older review has it that "at the time of the organization of the township in 1848 the Defiance road was the principal one, the others being called 'hoop-pole' roads. The construction of roads and the build-

ing of bridges were slow of progress until 1880. That year marks a new era in the history of the township. In that year the Kossuth and Amanda roads were constructed. Two years were sufficient to demonstrate the great utility of these public enterprises. Since then nearly every public road in the township has been piked. Since 1880 the rude wooden bridges have been replaced by substantial iron structures."

In this township at the time Auglaize county was erected in 1848 there were the following landowners listed for taxation: Russell Berryman, Thomas Berryman, William Blackburn, William Barr, Ebenezer Buck, Jacob Baker, Henry Barnes, Jr., E. G. Barney, John Cunningham, Thomas Clawson, Hercules Carroll, James Crozier, Nathaniel Clawson, James Chaney, Robert Dillon, David Y. Yates, Green Everett, John Ferrell, Daniel Gregory, Francis Gregory, Harrison Gregory, Jacob Haines, Jacob Hiveday, George B. Holt, George W. Holmes, Edward Helfenstein, Martin Hire, ——— Helands, Ezekiel Hoover, Elijah Kemer, John Hemelin, William Lapham, Robert Moody, William Miner, Henry McConnell, Abraham Miller, Isaac Mills, Ruel Pritchard, Thomas Prosserd, Simon Perkins Jacob Perkins, William Ringer, David Richardson, G. W. Richardson, William S. Rose, Albert Spiker, Henry Stoddard, Philip Terwillinger, William Taylor, Peter Voris, J. and C. N. D. Waite, Abraham Whetstone and J. A. and E. M. Whetstone.

THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD.

The village of Buckland, the only village in this township, was laid out in the fall of 1872, following the survey of the line of the old Lake Erie & Louisville railway (now the Lake Erie & Western railway) through that part of the county, two of the landowners there at the site of the old Indian village of Whitefeather, John H. Gochenour and Josiah Clawson, having realized that this was a very likely site for a railway station when the trains presently should be running along there. Their original plat, which was filed

for record on February 1, 1873, was a plat of thirty lots, west of the river in section 11, broken diagonally about the center by the line of the railway, Clawson's land lying to the north of the railway and Gochenour's south, and they gave to their prospective town the name of Whitefeather. When the railroad came along the railroad company named the station which they established at that point Buckland, in honor of General Buckland, of Fremont, one of the active promoters of the road, and this also became the postoffice name of the town. When in 1891 the village, which by that time had acquired a population of 200 or more, applied to the commissioners of the county for a grant to incorporate for civil and school purposes, a petition was presented asking that the name of the place be changed from Whitefeather to Buckland and it was so ordered. At the first village election W. G. Brorein was elected mayor; W. U. Lathrop, clerk; W. N. Dingleline, treasurer; T. Bodkin, marshal, and Dr. R. W. Sharp, J. H. Gochenour, D. W. Kiester, Henry Sites, Fred Ziegenbush and A. Nuss, members of the town board. Since the establishment of this village several additions have been made to the original plat as the growth of the town warranted and the present population, according to the census report for 1920, is 258. Buckland is a convenient local trading point and has stores and shops sufficient for the demands made upon it in this direction, but its proximity to the neighboring cities of Wapakoneta and St. Marys has operated to prevent any very active growth.

The first postoffice within the present bounds of Logan township was established at old Ft. Amanda in the days of the post riders, who rode between Piqua and Defiance, and Samuel Washburn was the first postmaster. This section of the county, there along the river, was a favorite hunting ground not only for the Indians but for the white settlers and it is related that the forest abounded in game of all kinds. An older chronicle relates of Russell Berryman, one of the first settlers in that township, that at a deer crossing one morning he shot seven deer before breakfast. The river then

also is said to have abounded with fish of many varieties not now found in it and that at certain seasons sturgeons of great size would come up the stream from the Lake. It is related that on one occasion Thomas Berryman was crossing the river on a footlog and saw a great sturgeon struggling up the ripple. The water was shallow and the fish was floundering under the log when Berryman leaped upon its back and forcing both hands into its gills attempted to steer it ashore. The struggle was long and tense, but finally Berryman landed his prize, which proved to be about eight feet in length. Besides the Logan reservation in this township, which has been noted above, the Wapakoneta ten-mile Indian reservation covered the southeast quarter of the township and until lands there were opened to settlement in 1832 settlers were backward about locating in that part of the county, which thus got a later start than some other portions of the county.



MOULTON TOWNSHIP, GLYNWOOD AND MOULTON.

Moulton township, situated in the midwestern part of the county, is made up of one-half of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 and sections 13 to 36 of township 5 south, range 5 east, and thus covers twenty-seven squares miles. The township is bordered on the north by Logan township, on the east by Duchouquet township, on the south by Washington township and on the west by Noble township. It is drained on the east by the Auglaize river, which enters in section 36 and winds west of north and out in section 11, taking several remarkable twists and turns on its way. Six Mile creek, a tributary of the St. Marys river, drains the western half of the township and these two streams are supplemented by a complete system of drainage ditches, which long ago reclaimed what formerly was a good bit of waste land in the township. Pusheta creek empties into the Auglaize in section 36. Two unincorporated villages, Glynwood, on the creek in the southwest quarter of section 20, and Moulton, on the southern edge of

the township in the southwest quarter of section 33, are trade and social centers of much convenience to the people of the township. Glynwood is situated on the Lake Erie & Western railroad, which enters the township from the northeast in section 10 and passes out on its way to St. Marys in section 30. Moulton is situated on the Toledo & Ohio Central railway and the Western Ohio electric line, which follow the St. Marys and Wapakoneta highway along about the southern border of the township. The old Wapakoneta Indian reservation line cut through this township at almost the immediate center north and south. Due to the peculiarly irregular conformation of Auglaize county, Moulton township is the only one of the county's fourteen townships that does not touch a border of one of the neighboring counties.

Moulton township was erected in 1835, three years after the departure of the Indians, and was at that time attached to Allen county. When Auglaize county was erected in 1848, the original congressional township was divided to give to Logan township the upper tier and half the second tier of sections, as has been set out in the story relating to this latter township. The story of the erection of the original township is carried in the journal of the board of commissioners for Allen county, where, as of date December 25, 1835, it is recorded that "Joseph Haskell then presented a petition from the inhabitants of township 5 south, range 5 east, praying to be set off as a separate township and to be designated and known by the name of Moulton. Petition granted. Bonds given and advertisements written for an election to be held at the house of Joseph Haskell on the 30th of January, 1836, for the purpose of electing the necessary township officers." Joseph Haskell had entered four parcels of land, in sections 10, 23 and 25, in this township in 1832, the year the Indians were escorted West and was an active figure in the early development of the township.

OLD CHIEF CORNSTALK AND BLUE JACKET.

With the exception of the lands along the river that old Chief Cornstalk's clan had cleared for their cornfields, the region now covered with well tilled farms was a forest wilderness that offered little encouragement to the endeavors of man, but the settlers realized the job that was cut out for them and with the directness of the frontiersman were not long in getting the job well under way. Old Chief Cornstalk went with his tribe to their new lands in the West in 1832 and there died about ten years later. He was a son of the celebrated Shawnee chief, Peter Cornstalk, who was assassinated at Point Pleasant in 1774, and it has been written of him that, like his father, he "was commanding in appearance and had the lofty bearing of the true savage." With the rest of his Wapakoneta tribesmen he resisted Harmar, St. Clair and Wayne, but after the second battle at Ft. Recovery recognized that the white man was coming in to stay and he signed the treaty of Greenville and ever after was a good Indian, making his home along the Auglaize about two miles down the river from the council house at Wapakoneta until the Shawnees were moved West, he then being past eighty years of age. He directed the farm operations of his people here and when the white men came in they found a good deal of tilled land along the bottoms up through the present Moulton township.

Cornstalk apparently also was somewhat of a statesman. In Henry Harvey's history of the Shawnees it is set out that "when the Wyandot Indians of Ohio sold their reservation to the United States they demanded that the Shawnees should cede to them a tract of land containing 150 square miles, lying at the east end of the Shawnee lands, claiming that that amount of land was due to them for privileges they had granted the Shawnees in Ohio. The demand was met by violent opposition from the Shawnees. A meeting of the chiefs was held to discuss the unjust demand. Among the most prominent speakers who opposed the measure was Peter Corn-

stalk, a very old man and son of the celebrated Chief Cornstalk, a conspicuous character in the Governor Dunmore war. He declared that he was as old a man as the commissioner was and that he did not believe one word he said about the Wyandots having done so much for the Shawnees. He thought it very strange that the Government could remember so much the Wyandots had done for them and know so little about it. 'Strange,' said he, 'I must have been asleep a long time. 'Well,' he continued, 'the Wyandots have given the United States a great deal of land; the United States have plenty—more, by far, than the Shawnees have—and I propose that they just give the Wyandots a little, and not beg it of the Shawnees for them.' "

Blue Jacket was another of the Shawnee chieftains who made his home in what is now Moulton township, having his quarters along the river about the center of section 25 and co-operating with Cornstalk in the management of the affairs of that branch of the tribe, after the two had settled down to the business of being good Indians. The name of Blue Jacket is inseparably associated with the bloody operations of the Indians in northwestern Ohio and even those of the writers concerning Indian affairs who persistently affected a sympathetic interest in the redman have little good to say of him. He served as a subordinate under Little Turtle in the battles which terminated so disastrously for Harmar and St. Clair and so distinguished himself in the first engagement at the headwaters of the Wabash (Ft. Recovery) that he was given command of the Indian forces in the campaign which terminated in the battle of Fallen Timbers and the destruction by "Mad Anthony" Wayne of any further hope the redmen may have been cherishing with respect to their continued dominance here. Reluctantly and sullenly he participated in the treaty of Greenville, where he abandoned hope after signing the treaty, and then returned to Wapakoneta, where he spent much of his time bringing in liquor for the redskins. About 1825 he turned this profitable liquor business over to his son, James Blue Jacket, and joined the western tribe

of the Shawnees along the Missouri—a good riddance for Ohio. The younger Blue Jacket kept up his liquor traffic here until the Shawnees were moved West. The story of Big Captain Johnny's village at the mouth of the Pusheta in this township has been told elsewhere.

VILLAGES OF MOULTON TOWNSHIP.

The village of Glynwood, on Six Mile creek and the Lake Erie & Western railway, in the southwest quarter of section 20 of this township was platted by John Glynn, who owned the land there, upon the coming of the railroad, the plat, an irregular tract of thirty lots traversed diagonally by the line of the railway, having been filed for record on July 27, 1876. John Glynn was thirty-one years of age when he came to this country from his native Ireland and located at Columbus, this state. Six years later he came up here and bought the farm on which he settled down in Moulton township. Glynwood is a convenient local trading and shipping point, but has not attained much growth. The village of Moulton, which has been recognized as a similar local center since the days of the old plank road, attained a little more prominence with the coming of the T. & O. C. railway and the Western Ohio electric line, but its situation as a half-way point between St. Marys and Wapakoneta has prevented its expansion. The census report for 1920 gave it a population of 106.

The tax duplicate for the year 1848 reveals the presence of the following landowners in Moulton township when this county was organized: Nathaniel Adams, Christopher Bailey, Augustus Beaver, Jesse Bowser, Thomas Botkin, Jacob Baker, Elias Beaver, Gottlieb Buhr, Henry Barnes, Jr., Lewis Breece, Josiah Borton, John C. Bothe, John Bigler, Jacob Bigler, Daniel Cutler, John M. Chamberlain, Samuel Chamberlain, Frederick Clapp, Lewis D. Campbell, John Clawson, Thomas Clawson, Cornelius Christie, William Crowder, Joseph Cumings, Abner Daniels, Job Dillon, Sam-

uel Darnell, William Evan, Hugh Elliott, James Elliott, Jacob Fleming, Christian Forney, John Fleming, J. G. Friedman, John G. Frische, William Green, James Hecox, Ambrose Harvey, Jesse Hardin, Joseph Haskill, George B. Holt, Daniel Hart, Hugh Jelly, Jonathan Johnston, Evan Jones, George Julian, Stephen Julian, Thomas Jones, Henry Kessekamp, Joseph Keller, Jacob Keiser, Abraham Keller, John Lenox, Michael Leatherman, John McFarland, Martin Meyers, Frederick Marquand, William Moorehead, E. & M. Miller, Andrew McKee, William P. Moarey, Henry McConnell, Benjamin Noggle, Joseph Pritchard, Jacob Perkins, Simon Perkins, John and Peter Primer, Francis Rain, Michael Ringer, William Rise, Samuel Sharp, ——— Schoonover, William Sillins, Samuel Seibert, Michael Seifert, John P. Sillins, Henry Stoddard, George Tester, Margaret Terwillager, Isaac Terwillager, Daniel Voris, John Wahl, Benjamin Whitney, H. D. V. Williams, Thomas West, Sr., Thomas West, Jr., Thomas Williams, John Waite, James and Thomas Wair, Samuel Walker, George Walter, William West, John Young and Thornton J. Young.

NOBLE TOWNSHIP

Noble township in the western part of the county is bounded on the north by Salem township, on the east by Moulton township and a fraction of Logan township, on the south by St. Marys township and on the west by Mercer county. It is made up of sections 7 to 36 of township 5 south, range 4 east, and thus contains thirty square miles. The township is traversed by the St. Marys river, which enters in section 34, pursues a serpentine course east of north through the township and out in section 12, the chief tributary of this stream in this township being Four Mile run, which enters from Mercer county in section 31 and joins the river in section 22, about the center of the township. The Miami & Erie canal follows the general course of the river, with Lock 14 in section 14. The generally low and level surface

of the township, which borders on what formerly was known as the Black Swamp, has necessitated a good deal of pretty expensive artificial drainage, the first important project of which was the Big Run ditch put through in the northwestern part of the township about fifty years ago. Since then, as the land became cleared of its heavy forest growth, drainage has kept pace with the demands of the landowners and it is now one of the most productive portions of the county. There are no villages in Noble township, but it is joined on the south (in sections 33 and 34) by the city of St. Marys, a very convenient commercial and social center for the people of the township.

This township prior to the erection of Auglaize county in 1848 was attached to Mercer county and with what now is Salem township, neighboring on the north, was known as Wayne township, so named on account of the old Wayne military trail having run up through that part of the country. However there also was a Wayne township in that part of Allen county which was taken over by the new county of Auglaize and it thus became necessary to find a new name for the western township which was divided for the sake of convenience, the upper part being given the name of Salem and the lower part the name of Noble. This latter township was named in honor of Elisha Noble, one of the early settlers of that region and who had been serving for six years as a member of the board of commissioners for Mercer county. In the second election held in the new county of Auglaize (1850) he was elected to represent his district on the board of commissioners for this county. Elisha Noble was born on the east shore of Maryland in 1782 and five years after Ohio was admitted to statehood came to this state, in 1808, and settled in Clinton county, where he was living when the War of 1812 broke out. He enlisted his services and was an active participant in that second struggle for American independence, having been present at the siege of Ft. Meigs and at the battle of the Thames. When the new lands up in this part of the state were opened for settle-

ment he moved here and settled in what then was Mercer county, thus early becoming one of the prominent and influential citizens of this region, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1864.

In the chapter relating to the settlement period mention is made of the first settlers of this township and the tax duplicate for 1848 shows the presence of the following land-owners in Noble township when this county was erected: William Armstrong, Samuel Armstrong, Eleanor Armstrong, Joseph D. Blew, Thomas S. Bowles, Samuel Brady, Nicholas Brewer, Nicholas Broadwell, Alexander Conover, Bergen Covert, Aaron Cox, Thomas Davidson, Solomon Denny, John Ellis, Ezekiel Gould, R. B. Gordon, John Hawthorn, Henry W. Hicks, John S. Houston, Joseph Hoover, John N. Hawthorn, James Jeffrey, Israel Johns, Joseph Kelsey, Jared Kelsey, Peter P. Lowe, Franklin Linzee, William Lattimer, Benjamin Linzee, C. C. Langsdon, Caleb Major, Robert Moody, William Mitchell, A. D. Medberry, Frederick Marquand, G. W. McLaughlin, William Neal, John M. Nelson, Jacob Noble, Henry Noble, Elisha Noble, William Overlay, William O'Hara, Jacob Perkins, John Plummer, Jacob Rice, Jeremiah Rubert, William Sawyer, Madison Sweetser, Frederick VanBillerson, John Vannuys, Griffin Watson, William Weidemeyer and Samuel Weidemeyer. On August 25, 1836, Jesse Belknap filed for record a plat of a town in the southern part of Noble township, to which he gave the name of Janesville. This was a tract of seventy-two lots with a "public square" in the center of the plat. Janesville never got a permanent place on the map.

PUSHETA TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF FREYBURG.

Pusheta township, which is made up of sections 1 to 30 of township 6 south, range 4 east, and thus comprises within its bounds an area of thirty square miles, is bounded on the north by Duchouquet township, on the east by Clay township, on the south by Shelby county and on the west by Washington township, with the village of Freyburg in the southeast

quarter of section 15, two miles east of the Baltimore & Ohio railway and the main line of the Western Ohio electric railway, which enter the township from Wapakoneta in section 5 and follow the Sidney-Wapakoneta highway east of south and out toward Sidney in section 29, not far from the town of Botkins, in the neighboring county of Shelby. The Toledo & Ohio Central railway also cuts through the northeastern corner of the township in sections 1, 2, 3 and 12. Pusheta creek crosses the township from the east, through the village of Freyburg and Quaker Run rises in the township, flowing northwesterly to enter the Auglaize at Wapakoneta. Other smaller streams offer exceptional advantages for natural drainage and this has been augmented by a thorough system of ditches. The southwest corner of the township drains toward the Miami, the "divide" being caused here by the St. Johns ridge, which extends through the township from east to west, forming an elevated table land. The elevated portion of the township was formerly heavily timbered, the uplands having been particularly rich in hard maple. It is recorded that "for fifty years the ridge was an ideal camping ground and in the months of February and March the Pusheta Indians and other tribes devoted their attention to the manufacture of maple sugar from the extensive sugar maple groves that covered the uplands." This land was occupied by the aborigines until their departure from this region in 1832.

The territory now comprised within Pusheta township formerly was attached to Allen county and was organized under an act of the commissioners of that county in December, 1836, four years after the departure of the Indians, the journal of the commissioners of that county recording in the minutes of the session of that month that "there was a petition presented by sundry inhabitants residing in the original surveyed township No. 6 south, in range 6 east, praying to be set off as a township under the name of Pusheta, which petition was considered and granted. Boundaries were given and advertisements written for an election to be held at the dwelling house of Joseph Mayer on the 20th inst." This

was probably the house of Joseph Meyers, who had entered his lands in section 14 in the vicinity of the present village of Freyburg in 1833, the year following the departure of the Indians.

THE HOME OF HENRY HARVEY.

It was in this township, in the vicinity of what later came to be known as the Shanahan cemetery, that Henry Harvey, the Quaker missionary and teacher who long ministered to the Indians on the Wapakoneta Indian reservation had his home and his school, and two of his children lie in that quiet rural burying ground, which also was the site of an old Indian burial ground. In this burial ground it also is said there lie the remains of a devoted teacher of the Catholic faith, Sister Mary Green, a native of Canada, who had accompanied a party of visiting Jesuits to the Wapakoneta reservation in 1828 and had elected to remain among the Indians as a teacher. It is said that she died of consumption in the home of Mr. Harvey in 1831 and that many years afterward her brother sought out the place of her burial and was successful in locating the grave in which she lay. The Wapakoneta reservation covered all of this township save the lower tier of sections and half of the second tier from the south.

The name of this township and of the principal stream which flows through it were given in honor of the Indian chief who directed the affairs of that clan of the Shawnees which made their hunting grounds there. In the text of the treaty at the foot of the Rapids of the Maumee in which this reservation was allotted, the name of this chief is spelled Pasheto. Henry Harvey's "History of the Shawnees" renders it Pesheto. Professor Williamson's review carries the observation that "it is not known who took upon himself the responsibility of writing it Pusheta." In this latter form it appears in the first civil records relating to the township and perhaps is a very proper orthographic and phonetic com-

promise agreed upon by the settlers who petitioned for the setting off of a township to bear that name.

The first school house in this township was that erected along Quaker Run in the northeast quarter of section 19 in 1834, a typical log school house which was used for many years afterward. The village of Freyburg in the east half of the southeast quarter of section 15 and occupying the site of a former Indian village there along Pusheta creek, was platted on January 3, 1837, by Beal Spurrier, who had settled in this township the year before. The original plat of Freyburg shows a tract of forty-one lots broken about midway north and south by Pusheta creek, the plat comprising four blocks with Schemel street as the north street, Sidney street at the south and with Seiter street on the east and Spring, VanBuren and Walnut the other streets, running north and south. A later addition on the north added Main and Sycamore streets as east and west streets. The proximity of this village to the county seat has prevented any very extensive growth and its position off any railway restricts its commercial activities to purely local needs. It is a pleasant social center, however, and the center of St. John's Catholic parish, which had its establishment there in 1850. The census for 1920 gives the village a population of 150. Though the name of this hamlet is given on the original plat as Freyburg, it more often than not is spelled Fryburg and is so given in the state gazetteer.

PIONEERS OF PUSHETA TOWNSHIP.

According to the tax duplicate for the year 1848 there were the following landowners in Pusheta township when Auglaize county was erected: Michael Annessor, Margaret B. Altain, Mina Allbrant, L. H. Altenbach, Maritz Altenbach, William Butterworth, Paul Birk, J. & J. Biersdorfer, Joseph Bush, Sr., Joseph Bush, Jr., F. K. Bush, Jacob and Earhart Birk, Jacob, Michael, John and Betsy Bulp, Michael Baeumel, Henry Brocus, N. Berlain, Peter Brocus, Joseph

Bauman, Frederick Boardman, Philip Brown, Nathaniel Bowers, Adam Back, Charles Brison, Samuel Bowers, William Bechdolt, Joseph Brockert, John Bresler, Nathan Brokit, C. D. Capner, Jacob Colter, Mary Conklin, William and Edward Craft, Lawrence Clickite, Henry Crowell, Nathaniel F. Canal, David Cromwell, Thomas Cochlin, John Davis, Simon Dresher, Andrew Dresher, Henry Delong, Anthony Dirker, John Elliott, John and Adam Englehaupt, James Elliott, George Emerick, Mathias Eissart, Casper Feuslin, Dominicus Flaiz, Michael Flavias, Sr. Michael Flavias, Jr., Adam Fable, Peter, Charles and Blazy Fisher, George Faller, Lawrence Fisher, Michael Frantz, Andrew Fisher, John Frantz, Henry Freyer, Michael Foessler, John Guesseler, Conrad Grashaus, Earnest Graw, John Gearhart, Ludwig Helpling, Christian Haller, Christian Heisler, Joseph and Farras Hemert, H. H. Hermer, Melchoir Hechel, Bernard Helsinger Albert Heitzler, Samuel Henry, Samuel Harvey, Asa Harvey, Elizabeth Harvey, David Haroff, J. G. Herting, Michael Hemert, Frederick Heidepole, Henry and Conrad Huttes, William Hein, J. Hershman, G. W. Holbrook, Geo. Henzler, Catherine Harbst, John Henskey George Hoffman, Jr., John Hankler, Joseph Haggeman, Benedict Hoover, David and Job Johnston, Jacob Judy, Hugh Jelly, George Kigger, John Kitchen, John Koch, Jr., George Koch, John Kick, Adam Kuecht, Nicholas Knarr, Kloff & Monte, William Kirtland, George Kentner, Lawrence Kohn, Valentine Kinstler, John Kohn, Adam Keifer, John Keller, Augustin Klipfel, Christian King, Andrew Kress, Jacob Kolter, John Kentner, Adam Knear, John King, the Widow Klopfen, John Lenox, Sr., John Lenox, Jr., John Luntz, N. Longworth, Calvin P. Lenox, George Manger, Robert McCullough, Jr., George Masters, Fred Mittendarf, Joseph Millman, John Miller, Casper Marganthel, John Mellinger, Samuel and Joseph Meyers, Anthony Meyer, Samuel Marshall, John and Joseph Manger, John Metz, Casper Nippgin, Philip Nagel, Frederick Nane-maker, Frederick Naucamp, Andrew Nuss, Jr., Peter Obelz, Elizabeth Oswald, Sebastian Plum, Casper Peach, Chris-

tian Ruck, John Conrad and T. R. V. Roth, Christian Ruck, Joseph Reisensing, George J. and Peter Rohrbacher, John Rupert, Jacob and G. H. Ruck, Reseberger & Dick, Jacob Ruck, E. D. Roe, John Sametinger, Michael Seller, Isaac Saville, Peter Shoup, George State, Michael Smith, Shiveley & Trader, Conrad Schemmel, Benjamin Stanley, Michael and Gervasey Seiter, John Schaffer, Michael Seifert, H. D. Stout, Andrew and Benedict Shaup, John Schaft, Henry Shannahan, William Stockdale, Benjamin Spray, James & R. Spray, Jacob Snider, C. & L. Seiter, John Schurr, Paul Stewart, Lorentz and Christian Sametinger, Charlotte Spankenbord, Samuel Studebacher, Michael Snider, George Schlanker, Frederick Seitz, George Schafer, Anson Sateal, William Trebien, Christian, Abraham, Peter and Jacob Tobias, Mathias Taimmer, Michael Usserman, Henry Ulmer, Philip VanBlaricon, Thomas B. and William A. VanHorn, William Vorhis, Jacob Vorhis, Andrew Vale, Coleban Wilhelm, John Weimert, Jr., Mathias Wagner, Cornelius Winegardner, John and Andrew West, Peter S. Wilson, Nicholas Wehmert, Elizabeth Wise, Christopher Wagner, Henry Waltz, Peter Wagner, John Young, Nicholas Zanglein, David Ziegler and Andrew Zanglein.

In the town of Freyburg in this township there then were listed the following lot owners: Thomas Beer, Charles Behler, James H. Coleman, Charles Freinback, Joseph Flick, Francis Klipfel, Lawrence Kohn, Joseph Meyers, Andrew Nuss, Sr., Andrew Nuss, Jr., Philip and John Nippgar, Gervasey Seiter, Conrad Roth, Beal VanBlaricon and Henry Waltz.

SALEM TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF KOSSUTH.

This township, as has been set out above, formerly was connected with what is now Noble township for civil purposes, at that time the lower part of the township having been attached to Mercer county and the upper part to VanWert and Allen counties. It was erected in 1836 and organized in 1837 and upon being taken into the new county of

Auglaize in 1848 was given its present name. It is not a true congressional township, being sections 19 to 36 of township 4 south, range 4 east, and sections 1 to 6 of township 5, same range, and thus has but twenty-four square miles of area. Salem township is the northwestern township of Auglaize county and is bounded on the north by VanWert and Allen counties, on the east by Logan township, on the south by Noble township and on the west by Mercer county, with the village of Kossuth on the Miami & Erie canal in the south half of section 25. The canal traverses the township, ranging from a half mile to a mile and a half from the eastern edge, the curves and angling lines of the waterway having been surveyed with a view to cutting through the "divide" at the most accessible spot, this having been what came to be known as "Deep Cut" on the northern border of the township in section 23. In the days of canal activity Deep Cut attained the dignity of a postoffice and had a store or two, a mill and other forms of enterprise, but with the passing of the canal this point subsided.

Upon the coming of the canal and the gradual settlement of the township along the eastern side it became apparent that a shipping point would be desirable and Samuel Petit laid out a tract of forty-two lots in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 25, the plat being broken about midway by the canal, and filed his plat for record on March 2, 1858, giving to his townsite the name of Kossuth, in honor of the Polish patriot of that name. Kossuth was a convenient shipping point during canal days, but never got much beyond the hamlet stage, the census report for 1920 giving it a population of 130. During the days of the gas and oil boom the village incorporated for civil and school purposes and Thomas Barnett was elected mayor. That was in 1897. The village surrendered its corporate charter a few years later, accepting the fact that it apparently was not cut out for a city. There is no railway in Salem township and the northern and western portions of the township are dependent on Spencerville, across the line in the

neighboring county of Allen, and the villages along the railroad to the west in VanWert and Mercer counties for trading facilities.

EARLY SETTLEMENT RETARDED BY SWAMPS.

The St. Marys river traverses this township, entering in section 1 of the lower township and winding and twisting north of west and on out in section 30 of the upper township, with Big Run, in the west part of the township as its chief tributary. With the exception of the ridge which passes through the northern part, the surface of the township is flat and in pioneer days its ever present swails were covered with water during the greater part of the year, the heavy timber throughout this section holding the water as in a sponge. This condition of things operated to retard settlement and but little progress was made in the development of the township until after the construction of the canal, when the coming of saw mills and the opening of a ready market provided an incentive to settlement. With the passing of the forest and the drainage of the swamps that had marked the ground surface, a continuation of the great Black Swamp which held back so much the early settlement of the country north of there, the rich soil responded to tillage and has long been one of the choice garden spots of the county.

In a memoir of Col. William Kennedy, a veteran of the Civil war, who died at his home in this township in 1895, it is narrated that he visited this section of the state in 1840, he then being nineteen years of age, journeying through the woods on horseback, and spent the winter of 1840-41 in Salem township, which then was described as "a savage wilderness for miles in all directions and settlements were few and far between." Despite the wilderness, however, he was impressed with the possibilities of the situation and in 1849 returned and established his home in the northwestern part of the township. At that time there were fewer than seventy taxpayers

in the township, and these were not all residents, many of them having been land speculators who had taken over swamp lands for speculation or for future development.

From the tax duplicate for the year 1848 the following are noted as names of landowners in Salem township when Auglaize county was erected: Christopher Anthony, Simon Brewer, Absalom Bailey, Lewis Brewer, Thomas Bailey, Anson Camp, Sarah Crane, William Crane, Samuel Danner, Alexander Dill, Joseph Easterley, Stephen Fales, Daniel French, Isaac French, Sarah Fisher, Mary French, William Green, Thomas N. Green, Henry W. Hicks, Michael Howbert, John W. Hall, Ezekiel Hoover, Thomas Hussey, Joseph Jones, Jonas Jones, Austin Jones, Lawrence Kennedy, Peter P. Lowe, Benjamin Linzee, Philip Lawrence, Alexander McDonald, Samuel McDonald, William McDonald, Branson J. Miller, Branson Miller, Henry Miller, Joseph McMillan, Fred Marquand, Robert Moody, Andrew Michael, William Nelson, Seth Noble, Charles Noble, Elisha Noble, John C. Noble, Nathan Nye, Jacob Perkins, Simon Perkins, John Partner, Joseph Pierce, Seth Pratt, George Rupert, Jacob Ramage, Benjamin Rupert, James Robbins, Evan Stephens, David Sheets, John Sowers, John C. Schamp, Michael Tippey, Thomas Upton, John R. Voris, Jacob VanGundy.

UNION TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF UNIOPOLIS.

Union township is congressional township 5 south, range 7 east, and covers thirty-six square miles of as good land as there is in this part of Ohio. It is bounded on the north by Allen county, on the east by Wayne and Goshen townships, on the south by Clay township and on the west by Duchouquet township. The Auglaize river cuts across the northwest corner of the township, with Wrestle creek, Blackhoof creek, Hoffmans creek and Virginia creek as its chief tributaries, and Wolf creek drains toward the south, indicating the presence of the divide in the watershed through this township. The old Detroit, Toledo & Ironton railway (the Ford road)

traverses the township from north to south about a mile east of the western border and through the village of Unionopolis in the southwest quarter of section 17, and the Ohio Electric railway cuts through the northeastern corner of the township, excellent market outlets thus being provided for the people in that part of the county. The village of St. Johns on the Ford railway touches the southern border of the township and these villages offer pleasant social and commercial centers.

Perhaps the oldest person now living in Auglaize county is a native of Union township, born before that township had civic being. This is the venerable James Harrod, now living at Buckland, who was born in what is now Union township on July 3, 1826, and thus is now in his ninety-seventh year. Mr. Harrod is a veteran of the Mexican war and of the Civil war. In 1881 he left this county and went to California, where he remained until in the spring of 1922, when he returned to Auglaize county and is now living with kinsfolk in the Buckland neighborhood, with the confident expectation of spending the remainder of his days in the county of his birth.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP.

The old Wapakoneta Indian reservation covered a bit more than half the territory included in this township, the eastern line of the reservation extending a quarter of a mile east of the central section line of the township, and there consequently was little settlement here until after the departure of the Indians in 1832. The territory included within this township at that time was attached to Allen county, but the same was not formally organized as a separate civil township until in the spring of 1834, by which time there had come to be a sufficient number of settlers thereabout to demand something in the way of local self government. The journal of the board of commissioners for Allen county of date March 3, 1834, shows that "a petition

was presented by J. C. Lusk praying to have original town 5 south in range 7 east set off to the inhabitants therein for a new township, to be designated and known as Union. Petition granted; bounds given, and advertisements written for an election to be held at the house of Benjamin Corder on the first Monday in April next for township officers."

The tract book shows that both John C. Lusk and Benjamin Corder had entered lands in section 15 of this township, about the center of the township, the year prior to the presentation of this petition and it is apparent that they took an active part in the preliminaries leading to the organization of the township along civil lines. Thirty votes were cast at the election appointed for the first Monday in April following the granting of the petition and John Schooler, John Corder and another whose name seems to have been lost to record were elected trustees, John Balzell clerk and John Morris justice of the peace. It is said that for the first fifteen years of this township's civil operation the township officials served without compensation. It is further said that the first school in the township was taught by R. C. Layton. This was in 1836. The first church erected in the township was the little old log Wesley chapel, built in 1842.

It is narrated of John Morris, the first justice of the peace of this township, a Virginian, who had settled there in 1833, the year following his marriage, that when he came here there was not an acre of land cleared in the township save a few acres which had been tilled in the neighborhood of the old Blackhoof village (St. Johns) and that until he could get up a cabin built on the white man's lines he occupied one of the old Indian huts. A son born to him and his wife in that cabin was the first white child born within the present confines of the township. Among the other early settlers of this township was Hugh T. Rinehart, also a Virginian, who settled there in 1836 and who represented that district on the first board of county commissioners elected, following the erection of Auglaize county in 1848. Mr. Rine-

hart also served for twelve years as justice of the peace in and for this township and rendered wider service as a member of the state board of equalization. The Copelands, Abner Copeland and his family, also Virginians, came in 1836.

There were numerous Virginians and Pennsylvanians among the early settlers of this township, the trend of settlement here having been from the east instead of from the south as in the western part of the county. Among these Pennsylvanians were John Harden and family, who settled in 1836. Of this family seven sons and one daughter lived to maturity. In a memoir of John Harden written more than forty years ago it is set out that "Joseph, the third son, was noted as one of the best deer hunters in the country. He was also a famous bee hunter and he and his brothers, Mark and Jesse, supplied the family with meat and honey." The attractive character of the lands here led to rapid settlement after the Indians had gone and by the close of the year 1836 all the lands in the township had been entered save the school section. By 1840 there were four log school houses in the township, church organizations were being effected and the social and civil development of the township was well under way. The sawmills which presently came in expedited the clearing of the land and in proper time farms began to appear and the settlers began to give attention to the solution of the difficult drainage and highway problems which confronted them. The first road opened was that leading down into Logan county by way of Roundhead, this road following the summit of the ridge. Of these early roads, it has been written that "owing to the mucky nature of the soil and deficient drainage they were almost impassable in the winter and spring months." But that, of course, was true of most of the roads hereabout until the pike road came into its own. It was not until 1876 that the Wapakoneta-Waynesfield gravel road, or pike, was constructed. This road passed through Uniopolis and showed the way for the construction of other similar roads in the township, there

being plenty of gravel thereabout for local needs. The railroad came in 1892 and the electric line ten or twelve years later.

THE VILLAGE OF UNIOPOLIS.

It was in the fall of the year following the general settlement of the township that the village of Uniopolis came into being, John Hoffman, owner of the land along the creek which bears his name in the southwest corner of section 17 along the Wapakoneta-Waynesfield road, conceiving the notion of creating there a trading center in rivalry to St. Johns, three miles south at the old Blackhoof village. Hoffman's plat of the townsite was filed for record in the office of the recorder of Allen county on September 27, 1837, the same showing a tract of fifty lots south of the creek. The north and south streets in this original plat are Main and Blackhoof and the east and west streets are Oak, Ohio and South. The trading center started off with a store, a blacksmith shop, a saw and grist mill, and it was not long until church and school followed. Until the coming of the railroad there was little to attract development and the town remained a typical rural hamlet, a pleasant social and commercial center for the community. Following the railroad a grain elevator was erected and the Rinehart flour mill, finding a wider market, was developed until it became recognized as one of the leading flour mills in this region. The lumber mill and the tile factory also expanded and Uniopolis took on new life. The census report for 1920 gives the village a population of 193.

The tax duplicate for the year 1848 reveals the following landowners in Union township when Auglaize county was erected in that year: Jesse Ashburn, Warren C. Allen, Whiting Allen, Salathiel Adrain, Jacob Brobst, Isaac Bennette, Samuel Boolman, Richard Bailey, Andrew and John Brentlinger, Augustus and Samuel Beaver, Samuel, Harrison, George and Wesley Bishop, Daniel Brentlinger, Samuel Bitler, Sr., Samuel Bitler, Jr., Elizabeth, Henry, William

and Daniel Bitler, Levi and Silas Biggs, Daniel, John and Joshua Bailiff, William Bethers, Thomas, Jacob and Isaac Bogart, William Beehdolt, N. R. and James Basil, A. S. Bennett, Reuben Brackney, Joshua Borton, James J. and Samuel Bacome, Allen Besse, Samuel Berry, Joseph Brown, John F. Clark, Moses Collins, Benjamin Cochrane, Abner Copeland, William Carter, Joseph Copeland, Jefferson Castell, William Conner, Nelson Clarkson, Isaac, James M. and William Childs, Peter, Jabez, John and Mathew Cretcher, J. H. Cate-man, John Corder, Thomas and William Dudgeon, David Davis, John English, Hugh Elliott, David Edmiston, Jesse Edge, Samuel Focht, James Frazier, Daniel Focht, Adam Focht, Sr., Adam Focht, Jr., Lewis Focht, James Finlow, Isaac Fridley, John Gross, Henry Gerhard, Charles and William Graham, Abraham Gardner, Jesse Golden, Samuel Haggy & Co., Thomas Henry, John Hoffman, Jr., Jesse Hankins, Isaac Hankins, Jesse, John, Mark and Joseph Hardin, George Halter, Hardman Horne, John Harrod, John Hager, Elijah Harrod, John Harper, Jr., Manning Holley, Rachael Harrod, H. W. Hicks, Jacob, Michael, William, James and Levi Harrod, Levi Harrod, Jr., Aaron and Joseph Howell, Joseph Hoover, Thomas Henry, Nancy Hester, Joseph Huffer, James J., John P. and Samuel F. Jacobs, Allen Justice, Nathaniel Kimmey, Stephen and Hannah Kent, Lucy Ann Looney, Charles, Benjamin, Joseph and William Lusk, James Lowrey, William M. Layton, George and Jonathan Looney, Abraham Luhmon, Robert Lisle, Isaac Lemaster, Samuel Leigh, Elaner Morris, John McKnight, John McCormick, Joseph A. and Ann Morris, John Morris II, Levi Mix, Neal W. McNeale, Thomas McKee, Daniel, John, George and Daniel Miller, Jr., Ezekiel and Henry Morris, G. T. McLaughlin, Hiram Mussman, Elijah A. Musser, L. G. Moorehead, Thomas Naylor, John Ohler, Moses Porter, Andrew and Lewis Perkins, William Pendry, Andrew Ross, Isaac Rinear, John Rupert, Hugh T. Rinehart, Christopher Rudy, Christopher Richardson, John Rogers, Arnold Smith, Samuel Spees, John Schooler, Felician, John and Jacob Smith,



REFORMED CHURCH AT NEW KNOXVILLE.
(Remodeled in 1922)

Andrew Spees, Abraham Skillman, George Swisher, John and Mathias Spees, Harper and Jonathan Stiles, William Shaw, Phebe Sleater, John M. Shaw, Absalom Tipton, Edward Tissue, George and John Vaughn, Jeremiah White, Joseph Weimert, C. C. Wagner, Henry Woolery, John Watt, John Waite, Josiah Wallner, Joseph B. Walton and John Zaner.

In the town of Uniopolis in this township at this time were listed the following lot owners: Alden Besse, Robert Burke, G. W. Bethers, George Coon, Joseph Dawson, Jesse Golden, George Haller, John Hoffman, Sr., John Hoffman, Jr., Eli and Samuel Harter, R. C. Layton, J. McCloud, Felician Smith, William Shaw, John and Daniel Spees. In that portion of the town of St. Johns lying in Union township there then were the following lot owners: William, Henry and Samuel Bitler, John Underwood and Sylvester Vantress. One physician, William Craig, was listed for special license taxation.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF NEW KNOXVILLE.

Washington township on the southern border of Auglaize county in the second row of townships from the west is made up of thirty sections (1-30) of township 6 south, range 5 east, five miles north and south and six miles east and west, and thus has thirty square miles of as choice lands as are found in the county. The township is bordered on the north by Moulton township, on the east by Pusheta township, on the south by Shelby county and on the west by St. Mary's township, with the village of New Knoxville occupying three-fourths of a mile square in the southwest corner of the township in sections 19, 20, 29 and 30. The Western Ohio Electric railway cuts across the extreme northwest corner of the township, following the line of the St. Marys-Wapakoneta highway (the old plank road), and is the only railway line in the township.

Washington township is admirably situated so far as

its natural drainage features are concerned, being traversed by Center creek, Clear creek and Muddy creek, tributaries of the St. Marys, and Owl creek, a tributary of the Auglaize, these with their branches being supplemented by an ample and adequate system of ditches and drains, so that there is practically no waste land in the township. From a soil survey it is noted that the soil of this township is generally black sandy loam, intermixed with clay and gravel. The fertile bottom lands along the numerous lateral streams make it one of the best agricultural sections of the county. These lands, it has been observed, as in all other parts of the county, were heavily wooded, "and the improvements that are to be noted at the present time are the results of the most arduous toil." The timber of the township is of the usual varieties indigenous to this region, such as hard maple, beech, elm, ash, oak, walnut, linden, hickory, hackberry, buckeye, etc. Upon the development of the local gas and oil field this township profited greatly by the numerous profitable wells opened within its territory and there still is profitable production of oil in parts of the township.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWNSHIP.

Washington township was formerly attached to Allen county for civil purposes and was given a separate civil entity late in the year 1836, the journal of the board of commissioners for Allen county as of December 1, 1836, noting that on petition of resident citizens in town 6 south, range 5 east, it was "ordered that a new township be erected, to be designated and known by the name of Washington. It was further ordered that legal notices should be posted up in the new township of Washington for the election of township officers, said election to be held at the dwelling house of George Esperson on the 20th day of December, 1836." The Wapakoneta Indian reservation took in a little more than the northeast quarter of this township, and there thus was little settlement here until after the departure of the Indians

in 1832. There had, however, prior to that departure been several entries of lands in that portion of the township not comprised within the reservation, the tract book showing the presence here in 1831 of Shadrach Montgomery, William Spray, Thomas Chambers and Samuel McCullough; and in 1832, of Ephraim McKinney, Samuel Stabler, Samuel Howell, John Campbell and Ebenezer Lucas, and by the time the township was organized in 1836 pretty much all the most desirable land had been taken up.

When the tide of German emigration set in this way these lands attracted the attention of many persons of this nativity and in time the population of the township became predominately German in stock, the first church in the township having been erected by the German Reformed residents who had settled in the New Knoxville neighborhood. This was in 1838, two years following the formal platting of the townsite of Knoxville, which when a postoffice was established there had to take a new name there being another Knoxville in the state (in Jefferson county), and conformed to regulations by prefixing "New" to the original name, since which time it has been New Knoxville.

In connection with the early settlement of this township, special mention is due the name and services of Shadrach Montgomery, who entered his land there in 1831 and early became an influential factor in the development of the new country. Mr. Montgomery, a soldier of the War of 1812, was a Pennsylvanian by birth who had moved over into Ohio after his marriage and settled in Champaign county, where he remained until 1830, when he came up here on a prospecting trip and liked the lay of the land so well that in the following year he entered claim to a tract of land between Clear creek and Owl creek, just below the Indian reservation line, in what is now section 24 of Washington township, and there established a new home in the wilderness, the first permanent white settler in the township. He assisted in the organization of the township in 1836 and in 1842 was elected a member of the board of county commissioners for Allen

county. When Auglaize county was erected in 1848 Mr. Montgomery was elected a member of the first board of county commissioners and thus helped to organize the new county. He was a great hunter and is said to have killed the last deer and the last wolf seen in this county. Mr. Montgomery died in the fall of 1871, being then past eighty-two years of age. He was indeed one of the "fathers" of the county.

PIONEERS OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

When Auglaize county was erected in 1848 there were the following landowners in Washington township, as revealed by the tax duplicate for that year: Bernard Afferth, Jacob Arnett, John Arnett, Demas Adams, Jonathan Bolander, John Bates, Gotlieb Burke, William Burton, Case Broderick, Lewis Brocksick, Robert Brannum, J. V. Brunner, Samuel Blakesley, Mary Braman, David Catterdon, Charles Cumings, Robert Catheart, William Cook, Jacob Coverston, Gordon Cecil, Spencer Cole, John L. Campbell, H. H. Conklin, Hollister Cole, Cottril Gershom, Malcolm Campbell, William Casad, Thomas Carey, Joseph Campbell, Morgan Copsey, George Copsey, William Copsey, George Deigle, Henry Fledderjohan, Adam Fledderjohan, William Fledderjohan, Christian Forney, Joel Fuller, Henry Frische, Jacob Fike, John Frounfelter, Thomas Flowers, Ignatz Fisher, Daniel Gerhart, Henry Green, Henry Gudorf, Stratton Gorham, Adolph Haverkamp, Jacob Hudson, Henry Holscher, Jefferson Howell, Bernard Harmer, Jacob Hover, John M. Howell, Benjamin Hawkins, Jesse Hudson, William Hudson, Jesse Hudson, Sr., Christopher Harvey, H. Hicks, Jonathan Hankins, Mary Hall, George Holtzbecker, Benjamin Julian, William Jackson, Anna Koler, William Kuck, John Kitchen, Henry Kruse, Thomas Keiser, J. W. Lutterbeck, Abraham Long, Henry Lutterbeck, Frederick Leathers, Ebenezer Lucas, James T. Luttrell, W. H. J. Lambers, John Miller, J. E. McFarland, Henry Miller, Jacob Miller, William, Adam, Herman and Henry Meckstroth, Shadrach Montgomery,

Samuel McCullough, Frederick Marquand, Cord Meyer, Robert McMurray, Peter D. Mellinger, H. H. Neimeyer, Charles F. Oswald, John Powell, Samuel Pence, William Pence, Joseph Patton, Benjamin Powell, George Roberts, Charles Route, Isaac Rhodes, John Roberts, William Redwilliam, Sarah Roberts, Rebecca Roberts, Jesse Roberts, William Ryan, Zachariah Ryan, Elijah Ryan, John Rodeheifer, Elvira Ritter, Jacob Rolle, Mathias, Solomon, Julian and Benjamin Saum, Henry Shannahan, Philip Stilway, J. H. Schraver, Casper Smith, H. W. Sunderman, Conrad and John Stroth, John Straw, Benjamin Stiles, Martin Schade, Isaac Sheets, Henry Shearer, J. Smith, J. B. Tobias, Christian Tobias, John Talling, Henry Vanneman, Dominicus Vandever, Frederick Wellman, John Wiley, Jefferson A. Walters, Boiles Wirck, Henry Wellman, James J. Wilkins, Daniel Woodruff, V. H. Weaver, Mahlon Wahl, Nehemiah York and John Younger.

In the town of Knoxville (New Knoxville) is this township there then were listed the following lot owners: Andrew Atkinson, John Bosche, B. and S. Brown, Henry Finke, B. H. Horn, Frederick Leathers, Samuel Long, Cord Meyer, Charles Route, J. G. Strausburg and B. F. Schroeder.

THE VILLAGE OF NEW KNOXVILLE.

New Knoxville, which is situated on the left bank of the Center fork of the St. Marys river in the southwestern corner of Washington township, in the northwest corner of section 29 and the northeast corner of section 30, was platted as a townsite under the name of Knoxville and this plat was filed for record in the office of the recorder of Allen county on July 30, 1836, by the proprietor of the townsite, James K. Lytle, who at that time was operating the mill at that point and very properly had come to the conclusion that this mill and the adjoining store would serve as a nucleus for a village. Lytle had bought this mill from Cummins, Mather & Brown, who had established it, and who upon selling the

mill had opened a store, thus opening a trading center as well as a milling point, and it was not long until quite a nice little hamlet had sprung up there, this having developed during the years until the census report for 1920 now gives it a population of 537, with all the conveniences of a modern village save railway connection, the town having the usual complement of stores and industries and a bank. The town was incorporated in 1874.

High praise for the go-ahead qualities of the people of this progressive village was paid in Meyer's atlas of Auglaize county (1917), which said that "in the writer's opinion New Knoxville is the best kept and most beautiful small town he has ever seen. Its streets are all nicely graded and drained; its sidewalks compare favorably with those of many cities. There seems to be something in the spirit of its inhabitants which keeps them alive to progressive ideas and gives them the courage to use these ideas in the conduct of the village and its improvements." A modern school building was erected in 1915 at a cost of about \$30,000 and the admirable architectural features of the churches there add further attractiveness to the town. The original plat of the town carries 102 lots, eleven full squares and three fractional squares, with the cemetery in the southwestern corner of the plat. This plat is bounded on the north by Spring street, on the east by East street, on the south by South street and on the west by West street, with Mill, Main and St. Marys streets as the intermediate north and south streets and Bremen and German as the intermediate east and west streets. The Peoples Savings Bank of New Knoxville was organized in 1910. The current bankers' directory shows the bank to be capitalized at \$12,000, with surplus and profits aggregating \$9,000; deposits of \$301,770 and resources in excess of \$330,000. The president of this bank is Herman Kuhlman and the cashier is H. H. Kuhlman.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP AND THE VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD.

Wayne township, in the northeastern corner of Auglaize county, is made up of sections 1 to 24 and half of sections 25-30 of township 5 south, range 8 east, and thus contains twenty-seven square miles. It is bounded on the north by Allen county, on the east by Hardin county, on the south by Goshen township and on the west by Union township and is traversed in the southwest part by the Ohio Electric railway, which enters in section 7 and out in section 29, passing through the village of Waynesfield on the Wapakoneta-Waynesfield pike, this village cornering in sections 17, 18, 19 and 20, the only village in the township, though the hamlet of Holden (old Fletchers Chapel), in Hardin county, extends over into this township in section 13. The township is drained by the Auglaize river, which has its headwaters here; by Willow branch, a tributary of the Miami, and Wallace Fork, a tributary of the Sciota, with Wrestle creek rising here in the western part of the county, and thus has ample outlet for the effective system of drainage ditches which were found necessary in pioneer days to bring a considerable part of the land here under cultivation. The surface of the township consists of numerous ridges extending from west to east and the lands between these moraines are of great fertility. The east prairie is divided between this and Goshen township.

An older review sets out that "the pioneers who selected land adjacent to the prairie were more fortunate than those who entered lands farther west in the township, as the prairie produced an abundance of hay in the summer and early pasture in the spring. It has cost large sums of money to bring the prairie under cultivation. There are many miles of ditches in it, cut from ten to thirteen feet in width and from four to seven feet in depth." In this same connection it further was observed that "all the territory adjacent to the Sciota Marsh and prairie had for ages been a veritable paradise for the Indian hunter. Innumerable waterfowl of many

varieties visited the marsh and prairie in the spring and fall and of fur-bearing animals, the beaver, otter, mink, raccoon and muskrat, there was a never-failing supply for the trapper. The timbered land abounded in such game as deer, bear, wild turkey and pheasant. The pioneers, like the aborigines, depended for a number of years upon the chase for a large part of their subsistence. It was no uncommon event for a frontiersman to kill as many as six or eight deer in a day. Of turkeys and smaller game, more could be taken than could be consumed."

THE BEGINNING OF SETTLEMENT.

The lands now comprised within Wayne township began to attract the attention of settlers as early as in 1831 and within two or three years thereafter there had come to be a sufficient settlement here to warrant a demand for a separate civil township and in 1834 the township was erected, it then having been attached to Allen county, and was named in honor of Gen. Anthony Wayne. The first election was held in the house of Samuel Mocraft in April, 1834, and it is said that thirteen votes were cast. James Mahin, who had settled there the year before, was elected the first justice of the peace and Richard Berry, Allen Gilmore and Josiah Dawson the first trustees. The first school building was put up two years later and the first term of school in the township was taught in the winter of 1836-7 by Asa R. Mahin. Hopewell Methodist church was organized about three years later and Wallace Fork Methodist Protestant church was organized about the same time, these movements marking the beginning of the social development of the community. At first the wretched condition of the roads, little more than trails through the woods and over the prairies, and the long hauls necessary to make connection with a milling and trading point worked a hardship upon the settlers, but they got through, gradually working out their own salvation, until in time the lands were prepared for cultivation, market places arose to meet the increasing demands of settlement and the present orderly and

comfortable system was evolved, the progress since the middle '70s having been little short of amazing.

A chronicle of the '70s says in this connection that "F. A. Berry, a son of Richard Berry, who settled in 1834, says the first settlers suffered many privations. Provisions for the families and grain for the stock had to be brought from Logan and Champaign counties, which made toilsome trips, as the roads were bad. The Bellefontaine and Lima road was not cleared all the way and there was no bridge between the north fork of the Miami river and Lima. After there was grain enough raised for bread they had to go to Cherokee to mill, a distance of fifteen miles, which would require two or three days. After they succeeded in raising wheat for sale it had to be hauled to Portland (now Sandusky) or Lower Sandusky (now Fremont). It took about eight days to make the trip and wheat sold for 50 to 60 cents a bushel. It was the only way they had to get money to pay their taxes and get coffee, salt and other necessities for their families. Sugar was made at home. Deer and coons were plentiful and were the principal meats of the early settlers, as wild turkeys were scarce. The first settlers had a great deal of trouble with their stock, there being no pasture for them except the wild woods, which was common to all."

It is recalled that in the days of the open woods range for stock, each farmer would have a special mark or brand for his stock and cattle and hogs with slit or notched ears, cut in a variety of designs to suit the fancy of the owner, would serve to establish ownership, particularly of the hogs, when these latter would be rounded up for the long drive to market. The sleek, round hog of today is of course a distant cousin of the half wild "razor backs" and "elm peelers" that roamed the woods living on mast in the days of the pioneers.

THE PIONEERS OF WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

When this county was erected there were, according to the tax duplicate for the year 1848, the following landowners in Wayne township: Thomas Atkinson, Richard Anderson, E. G. Atkinson, Nathan, Joseph and Lyman Ballard, R. D.

Bradin, Abraham Buck, John Burget, Aaron D., John C. and Richard Berry, H. S. Bowdle, Sampson Buffenbarger, James G., Jesse L., Joseph and David L. Bowdle, John Clinging, Richard Campbell, James Coleman, William Cox, Samuel Cavender, Thomas Call, John W. and Richard Cramer, Michael Cover, Eli Crawford, Aaron, Newton, Jonathan, Isaac S., Isaac, Joseph, John R. and Joseph H. Dawson, Josiah, Charity, Arthur C. A., D., John and Amaziah Davison, William R. Dean, Isaac Evans, David and Daniel Ellsworth, John Erwin, John Gossard, Henry Gilroy, Allen Gilmer, Robert Grant, Peter Hippert James Hattery, Alexander Hutchinson, Jacob Hullinger, Israel Helphrey, Daniel Holley, Gilbert Hurley, Jr., Robert Hopecraft, Rachael Harrod, Wesley Hendershot, Elijah Harrod, Jacob Harrod, Jacob Harrod II, Martha Harrod, Sanford Harrod, Ann Maria Inskipp, William Jett, Allen Justice, Marinus King, Jacob Klingman, John and David Kirkpatrick, Edward and William Kearnes, Thomas Kilberry, John Kent, Sarah Ann Lacy, William Lewis, Jacob Ludwig, Samuel Lowman, Benjamin and Richard C. Morris, John Miller, Ira McIntire, Alexander, Mordecai and William Madden, Duncan McGehon, George Meyers, E. McBeth, David Meyers, James Mahin, Jr., Samuel McGovern, Asa R. and James E. Mahin, G. T. McLaughlin, Jacob McPherson, Joseph Morrow, Levi Mix, Jacob Meyers, Joseph Miles, Andrew and Elisha McCoy, Steely Meeks, William Marsh, George G. Moore, John F. Meyer, Abraham Newland, St. Leger Neal, Aaron Owen, James Parks, Colby C. and William Pepple, Thomas Pearce, Henry Payne, William Pearce, Jr., John Perry, Solomon Rudy, George Robinson, Byrd Richardson, Jacob Rudy, Sr., John Ridley, Moses Ross, Mathew Stewart, Jr., William Smith, Robert Sprowle, A. J. Starkey, Preserved Smith, Alexander Templeton, Lee Turner, William Thompson, John and William Whetstone, A. W. Winegardner, Robert Wallace, John Ward, Hiram White, Samuel Williams, Nathan Woodbury, Jacob Williams, Harris Wells, Henry Whetstone, John M. Walcott and John Zaner.

EVAN ATKINSON'S TOWN OF WAYNESFIELD.

The village of Waynesfield, mentioned above and the only village in Wayne township, was laid out by Evan G. Atkinson the year in which Auglaize county was erected and the plat of this townsite was filed for record on July 1, 1848. This plat was a tract covering three blocks and containing twenty-four lots, bounded on the north by Perry street, on the east by Atkinson alley, on the south by Ohio street and on the west by Hickory alley, with Wapakoneta street (the east and west highway) cutting the plat through east and west and Westminster street cutting it through north and south. Mr. Atkinson had established a wayside store there and as settlement increased began to realize that there would be a need for a general commercial and social center, so he provided a townsite which he thought would prove advantageous for location, about midway between Wapakoneta and Kenton. Two or three years later a postoffice was established there, on the St. Marys-Kenton post route, the settlers thereabout having previously had to go to St. Johns to make inquiry for such mail as might be addressed to them. Mr. Atkinson was the first postmaster and served during the Civil war period, continuing his service on up to 1867. The Bennetts started their mill, a combined saw and grist mill, at Waynesfield about 1860 and also later became engaged in the mercantile business, T. S. Bennett serving as postmaster from 1867 to 1874.

Two church organizations, the Baptists and the Methodist Protestants, early effected associations at Waynesfield, the schools became well organized and it was not long until the village began to find that it had a real field to fill. With the coming of the electric railway a new impetus was given to development and the town has continued to grow until the recent census has given it a population of 584. The Waynesfield *Chronicle* has for years admirably represented the village abroad and in addition to the usual complement of stores and local industries the town has two banks, the Citizens

Banking Company and the Farmers Commercial Bank. The Citizens Banking Company, organized in 1904, is capitalized at \$25,000 and according to the current bankers directory shows surplus and profits amounting to \$38,160, deposits aggregating \$233,000 and resources in excess of \$300,000. The president of this bank is Frank Day; vice-president, W. H. Butcher, and cashier, G. R. Wells. The Farmers Commercial Bank, which was organized in 1913 with a capitalization of \$25,000, shows according to the above authority, surplus and profits amounting to \$6,380; deposits aggregating \$143,380 and resources of about \$170,000. The president of this bank is H. S. Chapman; vice-president, P. E. Blank, and cashier, J. A. Bowdle.

Waynesfield covers an incorporated area of about one and one-half square miles and "perhaps has a greater per capita incorporated area than any other village or city in the state, covering practically the same area as the city of St. Marys." A very pretty compliment was paid the town in the recent Meyer atlas of Auglaize county, which observed in connection with a survey of the town that it "is the most progressive village of its size that has come under the notice of the writer." And Mr. Meyer knows what goes to make a good town.

CHAPTER XIV.

MILITARY ANNALS.

The military activities carried on in the territory now included within the confines of Auglaize county during the progress of the War of 1812 have been set out in that section of this work devoted to the days of Indian occupancy and of the early settlement of the county, where also is carried the story of the campaigns carried on here during the time of the earlier Indian wars. Among the pioneers of this county were quite a number of men who had participated in the War of 1812 and there also were among these pioneers several who had taken part in the Revolutionary war and whose last days were spent here. So far as is known this latter list was confined to five men, Peter Sunderland, John Ridley, William Richardson, William Rogers and William Taylor, who had taken up their residence here following the opening of the lands in this region to settlement. Peter Sunderland came to Ohio in 1817, he then being eighty years of age, and located at Dayton, whence in 1822, as has been set out elsewhere, he came up here with his son, Dye Sunderland, and settled in the Ft. Amanda neighborhood, where he died five years later at the age of ninety years. John Ridley, a native of Maine, lived to the great age of 106 years and his last days were spent in the home of his son, John, at Waynesfield, where he died in 1867. It has been written of him that "he was never known to be sick, and died of old age." William Richardson, who was a boy soldier during the Revolution and who later served as a soldier of the War of 1812, was for years a resident of this county, making his home with the family of his son, Elder Daniel L. Richardson, in Logan township, but the last twenty years of his life were spent in Paulding county, where he lived to the great age of 109 years.

William Richardson was a cousin of "Mad Anthony" Wayne, whose campaigns throughout this region had carried terror to the hearts of the Indians, the respective mothers of the two having been sisters. It is said that Richardson was married seven times. One of his wives, Catherine Millhouse, was a sister of Barbara Dillbone, who with her husband had been murdered by three Shawnees. Richardson avenged this murder by tracking down and killing the redskins, getting two of them in the vicinity of Piqua and the third down the Auglaize, about two miles north of where Buckland is located. It has been written of Richardson that he was a man of powerful physique and great endurance and that "he would rather fight than eat," this pugilistic propensity gaining for him the local sobriquet of "Rowdy" Richardson. He died in 1874.

It is also said of William Richardson that during the early settlement period, owing to his great physical strength and fearlessness, he was pressed into service by the law-abiding settlers to do the public flogging at Wapakoneta for certain offenses committed and that in consequence he became a terror to all local evil doers. The person found guilty of an offense against the well being of the community was given so many lashes across the bare back, according to the nature of the offense, with a long whip. Frequently the blood would flow freely and the culprit would beg for mercy. Some persons might think this mode of punishment brutal, but the law-abiding settlers considered it the most merciful as well as the most effective way of punishing criminals that could be devised to meet the conditions of the time and place, when courts were remote and "lock-ups" were inadequate. They were compelled to protect themselves against the criminal class and it was up to them to devise an effective mode of punishment. It is said that those who were flogged by the efficient "Rowdy" Richardson either left the country or, if they remained, were good citizens ever afterward.

VETERANS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

According to the older chronicles, the following is the roster of the veterans of the War of 1812 who made their homes in this county following the opening of the lands to settlement: Isaac Bogart, Reuben Brackney, William Brackney, Joseph Brown, William Craft, John Elliott, James Gibbs, John Hardin, Aaron Howell, Bennett W. Langley, Robert Linzee, James Maran, Shadrach Montgomery, Gideon Mott, Elisha Noble, William Richardson, William Ridley, William Ryan, Robert Skinner, Edward Tissue, George Whetstone, Jacob Whiteman and Henry Woolery.

By the time the Black Hawk war came on in 1832 there was sufficient permanent settlement here to arouse alarm among the settlers in face of a possible uprising of the redskins still remaining here, but there was no cause for alarm as the Indians of this region were not particularly concerned in the affairs of their red brothers farther west and the flurry passed off without special local incident. Ohio's quota in that war was soon filled from the older settlements and so far as known there was no recruiting for this service in the territory now comprised within this county, at least the older chronicles make no mention of it. There may have been some among the adventurous souls who then were settling here who responded to the call to arms, but if so their names have not been preserved in that connection.

Though there was considerable settlement here by the time the Mexican war broke out in 1846, all the lands of value here having been taken up by that time and the territory now included within the county having a population of right around 10,000, Auglaize county had not yet come into its own as a civic entity and was not erected until two years later, in 1848, the year in which the war closed. The call to arms for that war elicited a considerable local response, quite a few going out with the 1st Ohio, others with the 2d and another detachment with the 4th. Those who enlisted from this region in this behalf, according to the older chronicles, were as fol-

lows: James Basil, John Bauemel, Samuel Brewer, Joseph Brockert, Michael Busch, John Evans, Andrew Fisher, William Focht, W. B. Gibbs, James Harrod, Gotlieb Hermes-meyer, Ernest Herring, Charles Hipp, W. W. Howell, Private Hutchison, Henry Jacobs, Leopold Jacobs, Dr. W. G. Kishler, Thomas Lambert, Charles Levering, John Lowe, David Mitchell, Lafayette Markley, Caspar Metz, Levi Mix, Samuel R. Mott, Elijah Nichols, William Shafer, Benjamin Switzer, Francis Switzer, Joseph Watters, Andrew Zanglein and Nicholas Zanglein.

THE CIVIL WAR.

And then thirteen years later, in April, 1861, came the great Civil war or the war of the rebellion of the Southern states. The only newspaper published in Auglaize county during the period of the Civil war was the *Auglaize Democrat*, at Wapakoneta, the county seat. In the issue of this paper of date April 22, 1861, under the heading "The Union Forever—Auglaize Responds," there is the following account of the manner in which the call to arms was being met here: "Our usually quiet village presents quite a warlike appearance. On Saturday last notice was given that a meeting would be held on Monday evening for the purpose of raising a company of volunteers. Early Monday morning the cannon began to boom and by 10 o'clock our town was one solid mass of people. Court being in session, Judge Metcalf, after opening, made a patriotic speech and adjourned until May 22. The crowd then proceeded to the depot and gave the Lima company, who passed through, a parting salute.

"In the evening the meeting was held at the court house and speeches were made by Messrs. Andrews, Walkup, Craig and others and the call then was made for volunteers. The call was nobly responded to—some sixty coming forward and signing the roll and taking the oath.

"Auglaize is nobly responding to the call for volunteers. She is turning out the best of her sons—men who will stand

by the flag of their country to the last. They are men whom we look upon with pride."

And the feeling of pride thus expressed in behalf of the soldiers of the Union has never abated, but indeed has increased with the passing of the years and will continue to find expression so long as there remains one of the now rapidly dwindling representatives of the hosts which went forward at the call of arms in defense of the Union in those dark days more than half a century ago, and after all are gone will still find perpetual expression in the noble monuments that everywhere over the land are being erected to the memory of the deeds they nobly performed. Following the response of the initial volunteers above noted, others came as the days passed and the urgency of the nation's need became personally apparent. Recruiting offices were maintained in the county, manned by officers from Camps Vance, Cleveland, Chase, Troy and Lima, and before the close of the war more than 1,100 men from this county had entered the service of the army.

A STORY THAT NEVER CAN BE TOLD.

In the nature of things this brief review cannot purport to be a complete history of the Civil war period in Auglaize county, the limitations of this work prohibiting. A volume in itself could be written on the activities of that period. Regimental histories and the records of the adjutant general's office cover the stories of field service. The story of home service never has been, perhaps never can be, adequately told. That is a tale written on the hearts of those who had to participate and inspired indeed would be the pen that could present in all its poignancy of detail the heartbreaking strain of those days of stress. Here is a theme that might well attract the pen of some one here at home with a proper sense of the historical value of homely, everyday events. The thesis may yet be written. Handled properly it would be wonderfully illuminating, wonderfully interesting.

Suffice it to say that in the main Auglaize county acquitted itself aright in every responsibility arising out of that period. Unhappily, and it is a matter of bitter memory even yet, there was not always complete accord. Even as in many Northern communities, there were some few who sympathized with the cause of the rebellion and certain neighborhood dissensions thus created have not been forgotten. But this hardly is the place to go deeply into that—another story that in its entirety would require a separate volume, should any one now care to sift the tale and set it out for posterity.

OFFICIAL WORK OF SOLDIER RELIEF.

The journal of the board of commissioners for Auglaize county carries in brief official memoranda the story of public relief designed to mitigate somewhat the pressing need of such families of the soldiers in the field as might be suffering by reason of the temporary withdrawal of the mainstay of the family, but this is only a partial record of such relief. The local organizations, the noble women's relief corps and similar associations of amelioration, did as much in their quiet and effective way—a self-sacrificing service oftentimes as heroic as the more spectacular service rendered in the field. All had their shoulders to the wheel in this time of the Nation's need. The commissioners' journal as of June 18, 1861, sets out as follows the manner in which this relief work officially was inaugurated: "The board this day appointed A. H. Trimble and M. W. Smith a central committee for the county to receive reports and to disburse funds to the different township committees, appropriated for the relief of the families of volunteers." Alexander H. Trimble was probate judge at that time and Marmaduke W. Smith was auditor. In that same month, under the provisions of a special act of the Legislature, the commissioners had levied a tax of one-half mill upon the taxable property of the county to meet the necessary relief expenditures, and a fund thus was created to meet all the more pressing needs arising out of the situation.

In the journal of that same date it also is noted that "the board also appointed the following township committees: Salem township, A. J. Pickerell; Noble township, Nicholas Brewer; St. Marys township, A. H. Dieker; German township, Christian Smith; Jackson township, J. P. Schmieder; Logan township, Russell Berryman; Moulton township, N. A. Murdock; Washington township, Jesse Roberts; Duchouquet township, J. B. Craig; Pusheta township, Lawrence Same-tinger; Clay township, Arthur Bitler; Wayne township, Harris Wells; Goshen township, Sampson Buffenberger." And then came this notation: "The county central committee were further ordered to apportion the relief funds to the different townships, proportionate to the number of families in each requiring aid." And thus the work of public relief to the families of soldiers began, and the work was maintained so long as the need continued. Under the operation of the law this fund has been available during all the years since the war and as occasion arises is still drawn upon, disbursements in that behalf in this county during the past fiscal year having been near \$2,000. The county also provides a room in the court house for the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic. The local post at the county seat has a present membership of fifty-three. Nathan Kerst, the commander, has held that post for many years.

ROSTER OF SOLDIERS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

Forty years and more ago there was compiled a service record of the soldiers from this county who had participated in the cause of the Union during the Civil war and from that record in the older chronicles the following roster is taken, Auglaize county's honor roll:

—A—	Silas D. Allen	John W. Arnold
William Abeler	Jacob Alspaugh	J. J. Arthur
Adam Accuntius	Henry Althaven	Moses Ashburn
George Adam	George W. Andrews	Thomas Askern
Harvey Adams	William H. Archer	Christ Aue
George W. Akers	Fred Arkenberg	Gustav Augeberk
James W. Allen	Thomas J. Armstrong	A. B. Aylworth

James H. Aylworth
Wallace Aylworth

—B—

Albert P. Bailey
Gerard Bailey
James P. Bailey
Joshua Bailey
Walter S. Bailey
David Baker
Elijah Baker
Jacob Baker
J. F. Baker
John W. Baker
Oliver L. Baker
William Baker
William C. Baker
William P. Baker
Charles Bambauer
Abram Barber
Clemons Barhurst
Henry Barlet
P. Barnhart
John H. Barr
John W. Barr
William R. Barrington
Peter Batch
James Baughman
Henry Baumann
J. A. Bavar
William Bayliff
Jacob Bear
Anthony Beaver
Emmanuel Bechdoldt
James Beech
Samuel S. Beech
William Beech
M. Beemer
Charles Behm
John Behm
Herman Beimbrook
Hiram S. Bennett
James P. Bennett
John F. Bennett
John R. Bennett
O. Bennett
Thomas G. Bennett

Thomas S. Bennett
Orlando F. Benton
Henry Bergman
Franz Bergmeier
Hamilton Berry
Richard A. Berry
Bernart Berting
Francis M. Bidwell
Isaac Bidwell
M. Bigelow
A. Bilger
Henry Bilger
Gottlieb Binder
Elias Birk
Samuel Bitler
Daniel F. Bitter
Lewis Bitter
William Bitter
Jefferson Black
Joseph M. Blackburn
William Blakely
William Blank
John Blase
Anton Blum
Valentine Blum
Charles Boesel
August Boettger
Jacob M. Bogart
Oliver Bogart
W. H. Bomgardner
Solomon Bomgardner
Solomon Borton
John W. Bowers
Lafayette Bowman
John E. Bowser
M. J. Bowsher
Henry H. Bowyer
Madison F. Boyer
John Boysel
James F. Bradley
Reuben Brackney
Samuel Brackney
Jacob Bradley
R. S. Branman
Thomas P. Breckon
John Breese
E. F. Brewer

Frank Brewer
J. W. Brewer
John W. Brewer
William H. Brewer
Frederick Briar
Freidr. Brockriede
Mathias Brodbeck
T. W. Brotherton
S. P. Brundige
Alonzo Bryan
Lorenzo D. Bryan
William Bryan
Daniel Bulp
Fred Bucholz
John Bucholz
William Budke
C. N. Bussenbarger
Fred Buhr
Frederick Buhr
Jacob H. Burd
Franklin Burden
John M. Burden
Sylvester Burden
William H. H. Burden
Mathew Burgett
G. W. Burk
John N. Burke
George Burmeister
George W. Burton
George Bush
Peter M. Bush
Martin Bustedter
David Butler

—C—

Alexander Caldwell
Clark Campbell
J. W. Campbell
Lewis C. Campbell
William W. Canady
William Carter
I. B. Casperson
George F. Chiles
George W. Chiles
Harvey M. Chiles
Jeremiah W. Chiles
John Chiles

J. M. Chipman
 ——— Christler
 John Christy
 William R. Christy
 James P. Church
 Albert V. H. Clark
 Ed Clark
 J. Clark
 Jesse Clark
 Theodore Clawsing
 Christopher Clay
 B. D. Claybaugh
 George W. Cline
 Henry M. Cline
 Samuel B. Cline
 John M. Coleman
 Marvin Coleman
 H. R. Combs
 Joseph L. Combs
 Joseph P. Conkwright
 George Conner
 Peter J. Cook
 Amos Coon
 Barney Coon
 Samuel Coon
 George H. Copeland
 J. F. Copeland
 John A. Copeland
 John M. Copeland
 Miller Copeland
 Alva Cordrey
 Davis D. Cordrey
 Jacob Cordrey
 Jeremiah Cordrey
 Riley Cordrey
 Temple N. Cornell
 John Coterell
 John H. Cotterman
 W. H. Covell
 John Covert
 Wilber F. Cowells
 Francis Craft
 John Craft
 Samuel Craig
 George Cramer
 D. A. Crawford
 William Crawford

Reuben Crider
 James Cutler
 John Cutler
 —D—
 Peter Dalzell
 Hiram Daniels
 Reason Daniels
 Harvey Davis
 John Davis
 Naaman Dawson
 George W. Day
 Jesse Day
 Francis A. Deeker
 John H. Deering
 Adam Deigel
 Peter Delong
 Bernard Deppen
 John DeRush
 William Devoir
 William Dicke
 David Dickensheets
 Fred Dickman
 Theo Dickman
 John Dietras
 Fred Dirkmann
 John Distelrath
 James C. Dobie
 Henry Doehring
 John Dohse
 Bernhart Dorsten
 Joseph Dorsten
 Eli Dougherty
 Thomas J. Dougherty
 William R. Dougherty
 William J. Downard
 J. D. Driskell
 —E—
 James S. Earl
 Wilber Earl
 Daniel Eastman
 Henry Ebbyhausen
 John Ehlen
 John W. Elliott
 Joseph Elliott
 William Chiles

Thomas M. Elliott
 William V. Elliott
 Henry Elshoff
 John Emerick
 John W. English
 Joseph Enneking
 William Ersig
 Edward H. Ewing
 Robert Ewing

—F—

Anton Fahrner
 Jacob Fike
 Archibald Finley
 Henry Finke *J. M. Finley*
 I. Firel
 George Fischer
 John Fischer
 Edwin B. Fisher
 George Fisher
 Caspar Fister
 A. Fleischmann
 James Fleming
 J. T. Fleming
 Rodney Florida
 William Flowers
 A. Foreman
 Joseph Foreman
 Thomas Foreman
 Daniel Fox
 Thomas Frazier
 William Frazier
 George Frederick
 Anton Friedrich
 Jacob Frey
 John Frey
 Lewis Freymann
 David Fritz
 John D. Fritz
 J. A. Funke

—G—

J. H. D. Gallaway
 Joseph Gardner
 William S. Gardner
 Henry C. Garver
 G. E. Geiger

Adam Geiss
 Edward Gerber
 Frederic Geyer
 Christopher Giberson
 Theodore Gier
 David Gilmore
 James Gilmore
 James Gilroy
 John Gilroy
 John A. Glenn
 Jacob Gnagi
 John Gnagi
 John Goetz
 W. H. Golden
 Philip Goll
 Herman Gosemann
 James Gossard
 Philip Gossard
 George Gould
 Kinsey Gould
 Thomas Gould
 Barton Graham
 David Gray
 Edward Graybill
 Philip Gress
 Albert Greve
 Daniel Gross
 M. Gross
 N. Gross
 J. J. Grubbs
 Henry Grube
 William Grube

—H—

G. Hamilton
 Harvey Hamilton
 A. M. Hamlin
 Edwin J. Hamm
 Louis Hamm
 W. Handelsman
 William Haney
 Philip R. Hanks
 Solomon C. Hanks
 Wallace Hapon
 Asa Hardin
 William Harper
 William S. Harper

Ephraim Harriatt
 Thomas Harris
 W. H. H. Harrison
 John Harshbarger
 John Hasenier
 John C. Hassenier
 Newton J. Harter
 Edwin J. Haum
 Fred Hauss
 Frederick A. Hauss
 Herman Haverbeck
 Charles W. Hawkey
 Abram Hawkins
 Reuben Haywood
 Walter S. Haywood
 ———— Heffner
 Bernard Heilers
 Henry Heitman
 Theodore Helen
 George C. Heller
 John H. Heller
 Abraham Helmer
 Henry H. Heman
 Christ Henke
 William Henna
 Charles F. Herbst
 Erhart Herbst
 John E. Herndon
 William Herring
 Jenks Heston
 Joseph S. Heston
 Samuel Heston
 Fred Heusch
 George W. Hiett
 James M. Hiett
 William V. Hiett
 Fred Hilgeman
 Perry S. Hill
 D. C. Hinkle
 Charles Hipp
 John Hirks
 George F. Hiss
 John Hodson
 ———— Hoewischer
 C. L. Hollingsworth
 J. J. Hollingsworth
 Josephus Hollingsworth

William Holly
 Martin Hoon
 John Hopkins
 Jacob Horner
 Christian House
 Isaac House
 Henry Howell
 John Howell
 G. H. Huckarmann
 Jesse Hudson
 Wilhelm K. Huebner
 Henry Huffman
 John Hull
 William Hull
 E. C. Hullinger
 Jerry Hullinger
 Thomas E. Hullinger
 Frederick Hummel
 George Hungelin
 Franklin C. Hunter
 Richard Hurm
 Daniel T. Hurley
 William W. Hurley
 George Hutchison
 John R. Hutchison
 S. W. Hutchison

—I—

Jacob Ice

—J—

Elmer W. Jackson
 Lewis P. Jackson
 Philip Jackson
 Thomas Jackson
 Henry Jacobs
 James Jacobs
 John Jacobs
 Silas Jacobs
 Benjamin F. January
 B. Franklin January
 William Jennings
 William Johnn
 Azariah Johns
 E. D. Jones
 Evan Jones
 Richard Jones
 Thomas H. Jones

Thomas Julien
George W. Justice

—K—

Abraham Kaga
James Kannard
George W. Kantner
William Kantner
William Karpp
H. Katenhausen
J. W. Katterheinrich
William Kates
Thomas D. Keefer
Amos R. Keeler
Henry B. Kelley
James Kelley
Joseph Kemper
Thomas Kemper
William Kennedy
James Kenney
Thomas Kenney
David H. Kent
Empire M. Kent
William Kenton
Philip Kern
Henry Kettler
Jacob Kiefer
John Kiefer
Nicholas Kiefer
John Kies
George Kindle
John J. Kindle
Thomas Kindle
Willis King
Jesse Kinsey
Thomas Kinstle
Conrad Kirchner
J. L. Kishler
William S. Kishler
David Kizer
Hiram Kizer
Jacob S. Kizer
John Kizer
Henry Kladde
John Kladde
Anton Klipfel
Joseph Klug

Henry Klute
George Knost
Charles Koch
Andrew Kohler
B. Kokenge
F. E. Kolter
Michael Kopf
Andrew Kraft
Anton Krieger
John Kreitzer
Charles T. Kruse
George B. Kruse
Charles Kuhle
William Kuhlhorst
R. A. Kuhn

—L—

William F. Lacey
Isaac Lamasters
A. Lamon
Christopher Landis
David Landis
Henry Landis
Richard Lang
Philip Lange
Fielding L. Langle
John Lanning
William D. Lanning
D. W. Lawrence
W. V. M. Layton
Ebenezcr A. Lenox
Henry C. Lenox
Richard H. Lenox
Casper Limbert
George Limbert
Michael Linder
F. H. Linglebeck
John Lintz
Albert Linzee
John C. Little
John C. Littler
John Luckmann
George W. Luce
William Loper
William Luedirke
Christian Luft
J. D. Lusk

John E. Lusk
J. W. Lusk

—M—

Isaiah Mahan
James M. Mahan
S. T. Mahan
Samuel B. Major
Jacob Mann
John H. Manning
William P. Manning
Anton Markert
John Markling
Friedric Marrus
J. D. Marshall
Frank M. Martin
Nathan Martin
Herman Mason
George Matson
Robert Matson
Joseph Mawhorr
Henry May
Jacob May
Lyman Means
Lyman N. Means
James S. Meeker
William B. Meeker
Amos G. Mefferd
Thomas Melson
John Merkle
J. D. Mertz
James Meslon
John Meslon
Frederick Meyer
Henry Meyer
John A. Meyer
John Henry Meyer
A. B. Miller
August C. Miller
Isaac Miller
John Miller
John S. Miller
J. W. Miller
Lorenze Miller
Merritt Miller
J. T. Milnor
William H. Minnich

Ellis Minshall
 Amos B. Mix
 Birhan Monday
 John Monger
 Anderson Montague
 C. H. Montgomery
 Robert Montgomery
 S. Montgomery
 J. W. Moody
 Andrew J. Morey
 Ephraim Morey
 Martin V. Morey
 John W. Morrin
 Benjamin Morris
 Benjamin F. Morris
 George Morris
 John W. Morris
 Samuel Morris
 William Morris
 William H. Moss
 Samuel R. Mott, Jr.
 Samuel R. Mott, Sr.
 Orland Murlin
 Peter Murray
 Abram Musser
 Daniel Musser
 Friederich Musser
 Harvey Musser
 Basil Myers
 Martin V. Myers
 William A. Myers

—Mc—

Martin McBeth
 William McBeth
 A. McClintock
 J. W. McClintock
 William J. McClintock
 Joseph McColly
 John T. McComas
 ——— McConnell
 John McCormick
 Joseph L. McCoy
 J. C. McCreight
 Noah McCullough
 William McDougal
 F. J. McFarland

J. I. McFarland
 John D. McFarland
 William S. McFarland
 Alex Y. McGinnis
 Thomas McGinnis
 William M. McGinnis
 Elias T. McGough
 John McHugh
 Duncan McKercher
 Daniel P. McLain
 Robert A. McLean
 Robert McMurray
 Samuel McPherson
 E. McWilliams

—N—

John H. Nagle
 Philip Nagle
 Caleb D. Nash
 Samuel Naus
 August Nebel
 Ignatius Nerdger
 Benjamin R. Newman
 Thomas Newman
 Andrew H. Nickell
 Armour Nickels
 Theo Nieberg
 William Niemeyer
 August Nieter
 Thomas M. North
 J. Northrop
 Isaac N. Nungester
 John Nuss, Jr.
 Henry Nye

—O—

John Ochs
 Aug. Ohlers
 Lewis Ohlers
 George Orr
 John Orr

—P—

William Pappé
 James Parish
 B. M. Parker
 John W. Parr

Julius Paulis
 Bernard Paulls
 Philander Pepple
 Elias Perkins
 George W. Perkins
 John A. Perkins
 W. A. Perkins
 Henry Pfaiz
 F. E. Phelps
 Lewis Phil
 Michael Philbin
 Joseph Pillars
 Charles Pitchford
 Theo Plagge
 John H. Plough
 Benjamin Plummer
 James W. Porter
 Jasper N. Porter
 William Porter
 Charles Prange
 Joseph Prante
 Andrew Prince

—R—

S. Randall
 John F. Rain
 John T. Rain
 William Ramsey
 William Range
 William Reed
 Samuel Reed
 Robert Reeder
 Samuel Reich
 John Reichelderfer
 William Reiter
 Simon L. Rexstraw
 Casper Rhine
 Asa Rhodes
 Abraham Richey
 John A. Rinehart
 David Rison
 Francis J. Roby
 Lanson C. Robinson
 B. Rodman
 Christ Roettger
 Fritz Roettger
 George M. Rogers

J. W. Rogers
 George H. Roney
 Silas C. Roney
 William Roney
 ——— Ronnebaum
 John Rosengarten
 George Roth
 George Ruck
 Jacob Ruck
 Benjamin Rudebaugh
 J. H. Rump
 Adam A. Rush
 Harrison Rush
 William Russell
 William Ryan

—S—

John Saggaser
Frederick Sallada
 John D. Sanders
 Jacob Saum
 Jacob L. Savage
 William Savage
 Lewis Cass Sawyer
 John Sayers
 George Schaffer
 Henry Schaefer
 Jacob Schaefer
 George Schaller
 William Schaup
 Charles Schemmel
 William Scherman
 Bernan Schindler
 Stephen Schindler
 Anton Schlanzer
 Caspar Schmidt
 Casper Schmidt
 Henry Schmidt
 Henry Schneider
John Schneider
 Christ Schnell
 Frank Sellers
Frederic Scholl
 Dietrich Schroeder
 N. Schubert
John B. Schuette
 William Schuette

Ber. Schulenberg
 Henry Schulenberg
William Schulenberg
 William Schuman
 Christian Schurr
 Fred Schwarke
 Albert S. Scott
 George Scott
 William Seemann
Frank Sellers
 Louis Sellers
 S. G. Serrells
 Lawrence Sexton
 Albert Shackelton
 Jacob Shafer
 James W. Shafer
 Thomas Shafer
 David Shanks
 Joel Shannon
 John Shannon
 R. A. Sharp
 James W. Shaw
 R. Shindollar
 J. D. Shipman
Samuel Shockey
 John Shoup
 Martin Shoup
 Purley Shry
 Charles A. Sibbert
 Henry Siedenbergl
 Fred Siemer
 William Silver
 David G. Simpson
 Albert Smith
 Caspar Smith
 Charles Smith
 Frank J. Smith
 George Smith
 James Smith
 Jacob H. Smith
 John Smith
 John U. Smith
 William Smith
 William A. Smith
 John Snyder
 W. S. Snyder
 A. P. South

Henry Sprague
 Nehemiah Sprague
 George W. Spray
 Robert J. Sproul
 Frank Staas
 Louis Staas
 Daniel Staley
 Philip Staley
 Reuben Staley
 Valentine Staley
 John Stein
 Henry Steineman
 Charles Stevenson
 F. E. Stevenson
 T. W. Stevenson
 Morris J. Stilwell
 Michael Stone
 Fritz Storck
 Lewis Stout
 Samuel Strawser
 Michael Stroh
 Dillard Sullivan
 Patrick Sullivan
 Henry Sundmacher
 Isaiah Sutton
 George Swarts
 Henry Swarts
 James L. Swink
 William H. Swink

—T—

O. P. Tabler
 Bernh. Tangemann
 Joseph Tangemann
 Jacob Taylor
 John Taylor
 Joseph H. Taylor
 Fritz Tellman
 James Tennis
 Joel S. Tennis
 Jacob Tester
 J. A. Throckmorton
 William Tiemann
 F. W. Tippie
 M. B. Tippie
 O. A. L. Tippie
 L. E. Titus

F. Tobe
 John K. Todd
 Lafayette Tompkin
 Frank Trau
 Henry M. Trimble
 James Truesdale
 S. Trusdale
 Hiram Tucker
 John W. Tucker
 Joseph Turner
 Starling B. Turner

—U—

J. W. Underwood
 Samuel Updike

—V—

F. C. VanAnda
 John Vandiver
 F. VanSchoyck
 M. Vanwornier
 William Virk
 Christian Vockell
 William Vornholt

—W—

F. M. Waggant
 Hiram Waggoner
 Peter Wagner
 Henry A. Wagoner
 Adam Wahler
 Herman Wahrer
 Israel Walk
 Edmund B. Walkup
 John Walkup
 John A. Walter
 Joseph J. Walter
 Gotthart Walther
 Lewis H. Ward
 Mark A. Ward

Wist Warford
 William Waterman
 George Watson
 George W. Watson
 John Watson
 Robert Watson
 W. H. Watt
 Adams Watters
 James M. Weadock
 John Weaver
 Joseph W. Weaver
 C. Weifenbach
 Jacob Weiler
 Arhart Weiller
 Louis Weinberg
 J. C. Weller
 Frederick Wellman
 Fred Wellmeyer
 Russell V. Wells
 George Wesswasser
 M. B. Wheeler
 John S. White
 Adam Whiteman
 A. L. Whiteman
 Charles Whiteman
 Charles L. Whiteman
 Charles D. Whiteman
 Judson Whiteman
 William Wiedemann
 Henry Wieser
 John Wilbrink
 John Wilhelm
 G. W. Williams
 George W. Williams
 Henry C. Williams
 Oscar B. Williams
 Peter H. Williams
 William E. Williams
 James Wilson, Jr.
 Jacob Wilt

L. Winegardner
 Samuel Winegardner
 S. T. Winegardner
 Gustav Wintzer
 William B. Wise
 John Wisely
 Nathan Wisely
 Lewis Wisener
 John Wiss
 John Witte
 C. Woehrmann
 Adam Wolf
 John W. Woodall
 James Wooley
 John C. P. Wooley
 Stephen Wooley
 A. Worthington
 Jefferson Worthington
 Thomas Wright

—Y—

Philip Yale
 Frank M. Young
 James C. Young
 James P. Young
 Job Young
 John W. Young
 Joseph Young
 M. B. Young
 William Young

—Z—

———— Zangelein
 Jacob Zerkle
 William Zerkle
 Fred Ziegler
 George Zimmerman
 Paul Zink
 Julius F. Zwez

THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

And then in 1898 came on the war with Spain, that brief but eventful war which aroused in the American mind a new conception of world obligation and placed this nation in a new position in the forefront of world affairs. At that time Auglaize county had a company of the Ohio National Guard, a well organized and well equipped unit of the state military outfit, under the command of Capt. John G. Hoegner, with its armory at Wapakoneta. This company was automatically carried forward into the federal service following the declaration of war on April 21, 1898, and was ordered to rendezvous at Kenton, where its members were enrolled for service on April 25. Four days later they were ordered to the general rendezvous for Ohio troops at Camp Bushnell at Columbus and went into camp at that place on April 29, and on May 10 the company was mustered into the volunteer service of the United States army as Company L of the 2d Ohio regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry. On that same date this regiment was ordered to Camp George H. Thomas (Chickamauga Park, Georgia), where it was brigaded with the 1st Pennsylvania and the 14th Minnesota as the 3rd Brigade, 2d Division. During the time of its stay at this general rendezvous this regiment received instruction in target practice and some further training and on August 28 received orders to move with the brigade to Knoxville, Tenn., where it remained at Camp Poland until November 15, when it was ordered to Camp Torrence, Macon, Ga., where it was under waiting orders when the war came to an end, December 10, 1898. Two months later, February 10, 1899, it was mustered out of service at Macon.

The official muster roll of Company L (Wapakoneta), from the History of the Ohio National Guard, follows: John G. Hoegner, captain; Charles O. Brokaw, first lieutenant; Roy E. Layton, second lieutenant; William M. Linder, Frank L. Snyder, Wilbur Dingler, Miller English, George W. Berry and Walter H. Ahlers, sergeants; Harry Hale, George W.

Hassenier, John Musser, Marion R. Adams, Otto A. Gessler, Albert J. Miller, Henry W. Wentz, Edward W. Ryon, James W. Shockey, Carl Means, Albert M. Osenbaugh, William Dickas, Guido F. Franke and Elza Red, corporals; Max Bischoff, Ellard K. Botkin, George Bitler, Russell D. Buxton, Walter F. Bowsher, Rufus Burke, Emra S. Blakely, George F. Bloss, Calvin Carter, Hallie W. Cook, Nathaniel Crider, George R. Crawford, Fernando C. Dearbaugh, Roy Day, Adolphus J. Dawson, Frank O. Dellinger, Walter R. English, Clifford D. Fisher, William H. Fisher, Tony Focht, Wilbur C. Gahret, William J. Graff, George Harter, Ferdinand E. Hollman, Henry Herring, Joseph Herbst, William W. Harter, William L. Heitman, John Smith Howe, William E. Ivins, Clarence B. Kettler, Andrew Kinninger, Edward F. Krentzman, Bert E. Kerst, Albert M. Koch, Charles Lucas, Marion Lucas, Otto M. McAdams, Elmer E. Mayer, Howard C. Miller, William A. Meihls, John A. McAvoy, Lawrence F. Meyers, Geo. M. Meyers, Rollie McClellan, John O'Connell, William C. Peckham, Harley F. Phillips, John T. Pohlaben, William M. Place, Franklin D. Ritchie, Tony Ruther, Lewis Reece, William E. Stewart, Anthony Schaffer, William G. Schneider, Samuel C. Smith, Elzy H. Shaner, Charles C. Shaner, Henry B. Seifert, George A. Steinecker, William F. Stueve, Alonzo D. Summers, Jacob F. Schragle, Samuel L. Tobias, Charles A. Terry, Clark W. Terry, William Tomhafe, Chas. P. Tannahill, Fred A. Wentz, Elmer J. Wentz and Grover Winemiller. Discharges—Isaac W. Anderson, Roy Hunter, Edgar Levy, Clinton A. Runyon, Winfield B. Wisener, Glenn W. Keep, Frank M. Clark, Samuel L. Blakely, Henry G. Aggenbroad, Otto A. Steinebrey, William B. Morey. Transfers—C. L. Mueller, captain surgeon; Mack S. Earl, Samuel J. Howell, Charles D. Gamble, Oscar V. Berry and Robert A. Breese. Died—Elmer E. Mayer.

Among those from this county who served in the subsequent war in the Philippines to put down the insurrection of the natives (1899-1900) were Joseph T. Dickman, then captain of the 8th U. S. Cavalry, who achieved fame as a general in the World War; Otto Jacobs, Lawrence Sexton,

Arthur Weadock, Grant Williams, George Williams, Frank Miller, George Ulysses, Lemuel Gibson, Clifford Fisher, Jacob Schragle, Louis Agenbroad, John Speaks, Ferd Miller, Jefferson Waltermeyers, Earl McMannamy and Benjamin F. Weidman. The Spanish-American war veterans maintain a "camp" at the county seat.

Company L arrived home from Macon on Sunday, February 12 (1899), and was greeted by a crowd of welcoming and expectant home folks at the Wapakoneta station. On Monday evening following a reception and banquet was tendered the homecoming soldiers by the ladies of the city at the court house, the evening entertainment concluding with a dance at the city hall. In its story of the homecoming, the *Republican* observed that "it is fitting that mention should be made of the splendid showing of this company as a part of the 2d regiment, and the perfect harmony that prevailed among officers and men. The company has always been regarded as one of the star companies of the 'star' regiment of Ohio. Many of the boys have been detailed on special duty as a recognition of their ability and have contributed to raise the standard of intelligence and soldierly bearing up to the highest and they may well be proud of having served in Company L. * * * The men are true examples of the brand of America's soldiers. * * * They came home without having heard the hum of bullets, but with a consciousness of having done the duty assigned them and no one will doubt that if it had been a part of their duty to take San Juan Hill it would be as securely held as they now hold the hearts of our citizens."

THE WAR OF 1917 OR WORLD WAR.

And then in the spring of 1917, nearly twenty years after the Spanish-American war, came America's participation in the world war, or as the historical branch of the United States War Department calls it, the War of 1917, and in this war Auglaize county did its part, even as it had rendered full service in the preceding wars in which the Nation had be-

come engaged. The story of that war is too recent a thing to require extended review here. Many histories of the war have been and are being written and the story is still unfolding. It will require the perspective of another generation to set the tale out aright.

Since the summer of 1914 the chief nations of Europe had been in armed conflict, beginning with the declaration of war by the Central powers (Germany and Austria-Hungary) against Serbia on July 28 of that year. This was the flame that ignited the powder magazine. In the first week of August the Central powers declared war also against Russia, France and Belgium, and with the invasion of the latter country by Germany, Britain on August 4 declared war against the Central powers and entered the conflict. In that same month Montenegro and Japan took a part in what by that time was coming to be a world war; in the next spring (1915) Italy entered the conflict against the Central powers, San Marino followed a month later and then Portugal, Roumania and Greece, the latter coming in in November, 1916. Meanwhile American interests were becoming involved in the general world conflagration and on April 6, 1917, the United States declared war against Germany and entered the conflict in association with the other powers that were in opposition to Germany and Austro-Hungary. Before the end of 1917 Panama, Cuba, Siam, Liberia, China and Brazil also had declared war against the Central powers and in 1918 Guatemala, Nicaragua, Hayti and Honduras had taken similar action, so that by the time the war came to an end with the signing of the armistice on November 11, 1918, no fewer than twenty-three nations were associated or allied in the war against the Central Powers, twenty-five nations thus having been involved in dreadful conflict, the duration of which from the active beginning of hostilities in August, 1914, to Armistice day in 1918 was four years, three months and seven days. The duration of the American participation in the war was one year, seven months and five days, during which time no fewer than forty-two divisions of troops had been sent abroad

and the army had been raised to 4,000,000. American army casualties in the war totaled 302,612, with deaths numbering 77,118. Ohio's share in these casualties amounted to 16,007, with deaths numbering 4,082, to which latter number Auglaize county contributed thirty-nine to the "gold star" roster of this county, as follows:

William S. Allen	Frederick C. Klute	Andrew J. Reineke
August Bornhorst	Benjamin Koetter	Frank Rostorfer
Charles H. Cook	Robert E. Langhorst	Edwin J. Schoonover
Charles A. Crist	James N. Latimer	Walter Schulte
Waverly E. Crites	Dewey Lewis	Leo J. H. Silk
David A. Fisher	Dewey Linn	Herman H. Soelman
Carl B. Graessle	Guy Locke	Walter E. Spees
Oscar Havermehl	Urban J. McFarland	Wilbert Stonerock
Ralph Hineman	Ralph M. Morris	Fred Sullivan
Harold J. Ice	Earl Munch	Ferrell Swink
Curt Edgar Ihle	Ralph R. Naus	Joseph Thobe
Vernon Keiber	Cyrus Reed	Alfred J. Tobens
William H. Kipp	Herman Reed	Thomas J. Weaver

LOCAL ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD WAR.

Auglaize county's participation in the activities attendant on this war was vigorous and continuous. Every duty laid upon the county was faithfully performed and in both man and money power she rendered all that was required and more, for in addition to the large number of men called to service under the operation of the selective service act many volunteers went forward into the army from here and in all calls for money, either in loans to the Government or in the various "drives" for funds for relief organizations, her quota invariably was oversubscribed, so that it may be said that from that fateful day in April, 1917, when war was declared, to the joyous day in November of the next year, when by the signing of the armistice the struggle was brought to a close, Auglaize county undeniably was at war.

Unhappily, and in a review of this sort the fact can not be overlooked, there were here and there over the county a few instances of reluctant or less than wholehearted participation. On Armistice day, when the joyous population was

celebrating some of these reluctant ones were compelled somewhat painfully to acknowledge the unpopularity of their attitude. Regarding that celebration, the *Wapakoneta News* commented thus on the manner in which the news of the cessation of hostilities was received at the county seat, similar manifestations of joy of course being noted throughout all parts of the county: "Wapakoneta laid aside her dignity Monday, day and evening, and gave vent to its enthusiasm over the signing of the armistice by Germany and the cessation of hostilities in a manner that betokened the fact that the city is well nigh 100 percent American. * * * It was one glorious night of joy. It was a delirium of patriotic fervor, martial music, band music, the rattle of firearms, the yells of exultation of the celebrants, the cheers of the crowds—it was wonderful," and much more along that line.

In the corridor of the Auglaize county court house there is a bronze tablet carrying the following inscription: "W. S. S.—In recognition of the patriotism of the people of Auglaize county who oversubscribed their War Savings Quota in 1918 this tablet is erected by the Ohio War Savings committee." Charles F. Herbst, of Wapakoneta, was chairman of the War Savings committee in this county. The quota for Auglaize county in the War Savings "drive" was \$625,700 and the sales of the War Savings stamps in the county aggregated \$629,800.

It was so also with the Liberty Loan calls upon the unstinted patriotism of the people of the county. The quotas apportioned to this county in the earlier of these loans, the First, the Second and the Third, were absorbed by the banks of the county, which took over the bonds in amounts proportionate to their respective resources and these then were redistributed throughout the county through the ordinary channels of distribution. When the Fourth Liberty loan came on, however, in the fall of 1918, the quota for this county was such that it became necessary to organize a "drive" such as had become a familiar and popular form of patriotic activity throughout the country, so that all might have a hand in the

absorption of bonds apportioned to this county, the county's quota on this loan having been fixed at \$1,389,700. The county was organized down to the city ward and township precinct units, with Otto J. Boesel, of Wapakoneta, as county chairman and Theo H. Tangeman, also of that city, as secretary, and the drive began, with the result that this loan also was oversubscribed, the amount of bonds sold aggregating \$1,390,190. When the Fifth or "Victory" loan, the last in the great series, came on in May, 1919, this same committee was continued and another drive began. This loan also was oversubscribed by the people of the county, the quota for the county having been \$1,128,200 and the amount subscribed, \$1,168,350.

ACTIVITIES OF THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

In the beneficent Red Cross movement incident to the war, equally generous and liberal support also was given by the people of the county. For convenience and for the better organization of the units comprising the "drives" in this behalf, the county was divided into two chapters of the Red Cross Society, one for the western part of the county, with St. Marys as the center of activities, and the other for the eastern part of the county, with Wapakoneta as the center. This movement was inaugurated on July 1, 1917, and the latter or eastern chapter was organized by the election of J. H. Goeke as chairman; Henry Moser, vice chairman; C. W. Timmermeister, secretary, and Alice Wilson, treasurer. Mr. Goeke after awhile moved from the county and Theo H. Tangeman succeeded him as chairman and about the same time Miss Wilson was succeeded as treasurer by Malcolm Baxter, Mr. Moser and Mr. Timmermeister retaining their respective positions, and this organization has been maintained since the war. At the "peak" of the movement in this county the Eastern Auglaize chapter of the American Red Cross numbered 3,300 members, many of whom have annually renewed their membership since the war.

From the time of its organization on July 1, 1917, up to January 1, 1920, the acute need of its war activities then being over, this chapter received from subscribers the sum of \$19,614.91 from which disbursements were made totaling \$13,862.38, leaving a balance as of the latter date of \$5,752.53 as a working fund for the normal and continuing activities of the chapter. During the period of the war each community in the county also maintained a "war chest," these local activities being carried on with the several townships as units. As an example of the work thus carried on in this behalf, in the way of general relief, the Duchouquet township war chest, with 1,487 members raised \$23,338.33. Its disbursements aggregated in general distribution \$18,947.55, leaving a balance of \$4,390, which was turned over to the American Legion.

The Western Auglaize chapter of the American Red Cross, with headquarters at St. Marys, was organized with the following officers: Chairman, C. R. Backus; secretary, Hobart Scott; treasurer, H. G. McLain. At the "peak" of the activities of this chapter during the war period, the membership totaled more than 2,000. Following the conclusion of the war the chapter presented to all "gold star" households within that district memorial brassards commemorative of the supreme sacrifice rendered by representatives of these respective households. Since the war the chapter has been maintained, a continuing influence for good in the community, and the present (1922) officers are C. C. McBroom, chairman, David Armstrong, Jr., secretary, and H. G. McLain, treasurer.

OPERATIONS OF THE DRAFT BOARD.

The necessity in this war of raising a great national army without delay, systematically and with an orderly regard for absolute fairness to all in the selective operation, brought into being the national selective service law by which every eligible person in the country would be brought under the direction of county draft boards created for that purpose and selections there made by equitable processes for army service. Up-

on the creation of the draft board for Auglaize county, James W. Shockey, a veteran of the Spanish-American war and former sheriff of the county, was made chairman of the board, the other members being G. W. Hassenier and Dr. E. F. Heffner. W. C. Davis, former postmaster, volunteer secretary of the board, later was joined in secretarial duty by Gilbert Kreitzer, assigned from the army, and Grace Shawber and Marguerite Krein rendered service to the board as stenographers and clerks.

Under the operation of this law all eligible persons were required to register for possible army service, subject to the call of the board in numerical order, this numerical order having been based upon an ingenious "lot" system operated in Washington and automatically and systematically covering the entire country. The first registration of eligibles was carried out in June, 1917, and in this county the number registering was as follows: In the first class, 684; second class, 129; third class, 116; fourth class, 1,084, and fifth class, 222, or a total of 2,237. In the registration of June-August, same year, there were registered in the county 150 persons in class one, 23 in class two, 9 in class three, 23 in class four and 36 in class five, or a total of 241. The third registration in the following September brought out 644 in class one, 4 in class two, 19 in class three, 716 in class four and 31 in class five, or a total of 1,434. In the registration of boys eighteen years of age, there were 271 in class one, 1 in class four and 1 in class five, a total of 273, the whole of the registration for service in the county reaching a grand total of 5,941 persons. Out of this list there were inducted into service under the operation of the selective service law 799 men. Of these, 149 were inducted prior to December 15, 1917, and 563 after that date. Seventy-seven of those registering and answering the prescribed questionnaires did not wait for the expected call in the sequence of their respective numerical orders, but enlisted and got into the service without further ado in the matter. Company K of the 2nd regiment (infantry), Ohio National Guard, at St. Marys automatically went forward into service and was federalized for duty in the National army.

ROSTER OF SERVICE MEN.

In the very nature of things it will perhaps be impossible ever to work out a complete and authentic roster of the men from this county who rendered service in the World war. Quite a number it is known enlisted for service upon the first call to arms and got into the army before the selective service law became operative, but this is an indeterminate number and may never be definitely checked up. The county council of the American Legion is seeking through the several posts of the Legion to make up a list of all former service men accredited to this county and in time may accomplish this. From the list already in hand in this connection and from the soldiers' discharge record book in the county recorder's office and the records of the local Red Cross the following names are presented as an incomplete roster of the men from this county who rendered service in that great war:

—A—

Charles A. Abbott
 Leroy W. Abbott
 Carl A. Abe
 Andrew G. Accuntius
 R. C. Ackerman
 Dale E. Adams
 Harold Ague
 Walter J. Ague
 Charles E. Aherns
 Al H. Ahlers
 Clemens F. Albers
 Leroy W. Albert
 Earl S. Alexander
 Evert Alexander
 Leroy E. Alexander
 Millard W. Allen
 William S. Allen
 Otto C. Althoff
 Walter H. Althoff
 Alpheus E. Anderson
 Boyd Anderson
 James P. Anderson
 Robert B. Anderson
 Robert T. Anderson

Walter W. Anderson
 Elmer R. Andrews
 Robert C. Ankerman
 Carl D. Arnholt
 Walter C. Arnold
 Harry Ashbaugh
 Harry S. Ashbaugh
 Lorenz D. Ashbaugh
 Harry Ashton
 Henry Athmer
 John Axe
 John L. Axe

—B—

Frank Bachman
 Walter Bachman
 Samuel Bahr
 Vernon E. Bahr
 Claire Bailey
 Earl R. Bainter
 George E. Baker
 O. V. Baker
 Robb Wilston Baker
 Robert W. Baker
 Thomas V. Baker

John V. Ballinger
 Albert P. Bambauer
 Carl M. Banzing
 Ernest McC. Barber
 Charles E. Barns
 John K. Barrington
 Alfred John Barth
 Elmer L. D. Barthauer
 Charles K. Basil
 F. S. Bates
 William Bauer
 William E. Bauer
 Frank Baxter
 Frank H. Baxter
 Fred Baxter
 James F. Baxter
 Clarence F. Bay
 Leroy Beale
 Ben Bebbeler
 Earl C. Bechdolt
 H. E. Bechdolt
 Paul F. Bechdolt
 Ferd F. Becker
 Edgar H. Beeler
 Lloyd W. Beerline

H. N. Behrens
 H. H. Behrns
 Edward W. Belcher
 Ralph V. Benner
 Albert Bensman
 Elmer J. Bensman
 Louis B. Bensman
 Jerome Benson
 Herbert C. Bentlinger
 Carl Benzing
 Carl M. Benzing
 Kurt E. Berend
 Alfred R. Berg
 Carl H. Berg
 Hugo P. Berg
 George Bernard
 Clemens A. Berning
 Robert Bernhold
 Carl F. Berron
 Charles Bertke
 Walter J. Bertram
 Wilbert V. Best
 Alonzo Biglow
 Albert R. Billger
 Amos E. Binkley
 Fred V. Binkley
 Arthur Bittler
 Ray Black
 Roy A. Blaine
 Philip Blakley
 Charles I. Blank
 Guy Bonnard Blank
 Joseph Bockrath
 Bernard H. Boecher
 Caesar A. Boesel
 Clifford W. Boesel
 Clifton W. Boesel
 Irwin H. Boesel
 Milton C. Boesel
 Reuben J. Boesel
 Richard E. Boesel
 Russell V. Bogart
 Charles W. Bolen
 John Bollinger
 Clarence Bonifield
 Henry Borgeding
 August Bornhorst

Herbert Boroff
 Henry R. Botkin
 John M. Botkin
 John Botkins
 Orien V. Botkins
 Orley B. Bowers
 Vernon Bowman
 Gerald F. Bowsher
 Harry F. Bowsher
 Harmon Boysell
 Harry L. Boysell
 Albert Boyer
 Albert M. Boyer
 Harold C. Brackney
 Arthur A. Brandewie
 John H. Brandewie
 William Brautigam
 William H. Brautigam
 Hubert Brecount
 Herbert C. Bretlinger
 Leroy Briggs
 Leo R. Briggs
 Guy B. Brincefield
 Sam Brinkley
 Raymond Brodbeck
 R. W. Brochart
 Alpheus A. Brockert
 Alphonso A. Brockert
 Richard W. Brockert
 Floyd Browne
 Ralph Broyles
 Ralph Virgil Bruner
 Eugene Bryne
 John E. Bryne
 Richard T. Budde
 Delbert E. Budling
 Eldon Buffenbarger
 Alva Burd
 Walter Burd
 Elmer B. Burden
 Vernon E. Burden
 Vernon M. Burden
 John P. Burke
 Thomas M. Burke
 I. H. Burkhart
 Arthur D. Burnfield
 Raymond L. Burris

Nelson W. Burton
 William N. Burton
 Forest W. Bush
 Virgil Bush
 Andrew Busse
 Charles B. Busse
 Herman Buttker
 Bernard R. Byrne
 Eugene Byrne
 John E. Byrne

—C—

Wm. Dewey Caldwell
 James W. Campbell
 Nelson Campbell
 Ralph W. Campbell
 Theodore A. Campbell
 Vane Campbell
 Charles Carmen
 Frederick Carmen
 Earl Carey
 Roger L. Carter
 Hiram Casperson
 Tony Casperson
 Orlando A. Chambers
 George A. Chase
 D. A. Chiesa
 Otis Chilcoat
 Delmer F. Chiles
 Luther Chiles
 George E. Chronic
 James Allen Clark
 E. H. Clark
 Theodore Claus
 Wilbert L. Clingerman
 James L. Coats
 Thomas Cobb
 Asa Harley Coil
 Bernard Coil
 Charles O. Coil
 Julius B. Coil
 Justus B. Coil
 William H. Conkle
 Frank P. Connaughton
 George H. Connaughton
 Charles Homer Cook
 G. D. Cook

James M. Cook
Robert C. Cook
Wayne Cook
Vane L. Cook
C. W. Cooper
Donald E. Copeland
Harold A. Copeland
Lewis S. Copeland
F. E. Corvan
Pearl L. Covert
Wilber L. Covert
William L. Covert
William Cowhick
Gerard Cramer
Joe Cramer
Frank C. Crider
Charles A. Crist
Waverly E. Crites
Zeldon E. Crites
Arthur Croft
Clarence W. Crossley
Floyd Crow
Robert W. Crow
Boyd C. Cuderson
John C. Cummins
Wilbur E. Cummins
James S. Curtis
George L. Custer
George T. Custer

—D—

Henry B. Dahlinghaus
John A. Dahlinghaus
Irvin Dammeyer
Orin S. Dammeyer
Kepple G. Dickson
Roy Davidson
John W. Davies
Lewis L. Davis
Samuel F. Davis
William D. Davis
O. M. Day
William J. DeCorsey
Clinton DeDermott
Harry Deerhake
Harvey C. Deerhake
Henry B. Deiters

Donald O. Dellinger
Harry B. Delong
C. W. Delrich
S. L. Depweg
Edgar H. Devore
Edward Dicke
Harold Dickerson
Hilmer C. Dickman
Kepple G. Dickson
Henry J. Dieringer
Newton E. Dixon
Glen Dixon
Guthrie Dobie
Irvin R. Dobie
Irwin Leroy Dobie
Adlai L. Doenges
Irwin J. Dohse
Irwin Dohse
William Donnerberg
William J. Donnerberg
John F. Doorley
William T. Doorley
Charles F. Doute
Fred Doute
John Downing
William E. Dowty
Walter Draper
Henry L. Drees
William J. Drexler
Clyde P. Driscoll
William L. Drury
Harry V. Dunathan
Harry E. Dunham

—E—

Roy Earl
Roy R. Earl
Victor Earl
Raymond Edgington
John P. Edminston
Robert W. Edminston
John P. Edmiston
Robert W. Edmiston
Harold L. Edmonds
Herbert Eiting
Carl W. Ekermeier
Carl A. Elliott

Richard A. Elliott
Russell O. Emerson
Brion L. Emerick
Orion L. Emerick
Elmer F. Ende
Oscar H. Erb
Theodore J. Erb
Reinhart E. Eschmeyer
Robert B. Esser
Edward F. Eversman
Ferdinand F. Eversman
Harvey W. Eversman
Vernie E. Eversman

—F—

Ottis Fannon
John H. Fastnigt
George B. Faulder
Henry Feldman
Ralph Ferris
Carl Fickel
Lawrence F. Fiely
William B. Finfrock
Emil H. Finke
Charles Fischer
George Fischer
Henry Fischer
Arthur Fisher
Arthur L. Fisher
David A. Fisher
Francis Fisher
Francis G. Fisher
G. W. Fisher
Harold C. Fisher
Harold L. Fisher
Joseph Fisher
Joseph C. Fisher
Joseph Claude Fisher
Lawrence W. Fisher
Robert W. Fisher
Russell Fisher
Vernon A. Fisher
Walter Fisher
William V. Fisher
Bryan Fite
Henry W. Fledderhohn
Walter R. Fledderjohann

Cloyce C. Fleming
 Wilbur Flemming
 Frank E. Flemming
 William R. Flemming
 Bloom Henry Focht
 James D. Focht
 Clyde T. Fogle
 Harold W. Fogt
 Lamont Folk
 Leo T. Fortman
 William Fortman
 Arthur L. Foos
 John Foster
 Charles W. Fox
 Adolph Frank
 Carl Frank
 Edward F. Frank
 Dewey Franklin
 I. S. Franklin
 Charles C. Fray
 Edward K. Frazier
 Anton F. Frenzer
 Alexander T. Frey
 Charles Frey
 Harvey Henry Fricke
 Frank J. Frierott
 William C. Fry

--G--

Maurice D. Gagley
 Herbert Garman
 Edward G. Garrett
 Charles A. Gast
 John W. Gast
 William Geiger
 William Geiger Jr.
 Farey Geise
 Albert Gephart
 Robert Gephart
 Leo H. Gerber
 Edwin G. Gerstner
 Gilbert Gerstner
 Harry F. Gerstner
 Elmer B. Gerwels
 Joseph W. Gerwels
 August V. Gesler
 Cleo J. Gesler

Erxil A. Gesler
 Mearl P. Gesler
 Cleo J. Gester
 Carl Gibbons
 Howard W. Gibbs
 Benjamin F. Gieseke
 David S. Gilmer
 James G. Gilmer
 David Staley Gilmore
 Walter Gilmore
 Grover Glass
 Peter L. Glynn
 Clarence H. Goeke
 Frank Goldstein
 Julius Goldstein
 John Goodin
 George C. Goodrich
 Alva Goodwin
 John Goodwin
 S. E. Goodwin
 Mearl Gosler
 Roy C. Gossard
 Norval O. Goudy
 Oliver Grabel
 Carl B. Graessle
 Harold H. Gray
 Fred A. Greber
 Forest O. Greber
 Leo A. Greber

Leonard W. Grewe
 Edward W. Griffin
 Orn Levadron Griffin
 Ralph J. Groll
 Elias W. Gross
 Charles R. Grothaus
 Daniel H. Grothaus
 Franklin F. Grothaus
 Walter W. Grothaus
 William C. Grothjan
 Charles B. Groysle
 Oscar H. Guckes
 F. W. Gunther

--H--

Joseph Hackemoller
 William F. Hackemoeller
 Harvey Hagemier

George Hale
 E. J. Halsema
 George W. Hale
 Clyde Haman
 Russell E. Hamilton
 Charles M. Hampson
 Glen J. Hanlin
 Carl D. Hanold
 Linzee Lehr Hardin
 Burley W. Hardesty
 Hal M. Hare
 E. D. Harjehausen
 Edward J. Harjehausen
 Oscar C. Harjehausen
 Joseph L. Harkemoller
 Henry Harman
 Lewis Harmon
 Slane Harmon
 Arnold Harpest
 Lawrence S. Harpest
 Othel B. Harpest
 George W. Harris
 Oscar F. Harris
 Charles Harrison
 Oscar D. Harrison
 Don W. Harrod
 Fred K. Harrod
 Charles A. Harsch
 Burdette Hauss
 John B. Hauss
 Oscar Havermehl
 George A. Haveman
 Carl Havmier
 Homer B. Hawk
 Daniel B. Hay
 Harry Hay
 Homer E. Haynes
 Arthur M. Haywood
 Raymond B. Headopohl
 Roy L. Headopohl
 Albert A. J. Heil
 Rupert J. Heil
 Urban A. Heil
 Ervin J. Heinfeld
 Harvey H. Heinfeld
 Henry Heitbrink
 Leander H. Heitkamp

Clarence W. Heller
 Bernard Helmstetter
 B. L. Helmstetter
 Leo E. Helmstetter
 Albin J. Hemmert
 Andrew N. Hemmert
 Ferdinand Hemschen
 Carl Henne
 Edgar W. Henning
 T. F. Henschen
 Al Herkenhoff
 Clyde H. Herlin
 George D. Herros
 Leander H. Hertkamp
 Elvin W. Hespe
 Harry G. Hibner
 Oscar A. F. Hibner
 James J. Higgins
 Thomas Higgins
 Urban A. Hill
 Harry G. Hilner
 George H. Himmer
 Ralph Hineman
 W. H. Hipp, Jr.
 Elmer Hirschfeld
 Leonard Hoagland
 Vernon Hoagland
 Walter Hobler
 Walton Hobler
 W. Clyde Hobler
 Stanley F. Hoegner
 Emil Hoelscher
 Hugo F. Hoeper
 Adolph F. Hoge
 Charles J. Hohnen
 Arthur F. Hoge
 Fred A. Hoge
 Fred Holcroft
 Thornton Holl
 E. E. Hollscher
 Walter Holtzapple
 Emil Holtzhauer
 Ralph Hoopingarner
 Frank Hoorman
 Wilbur Hopple
 Henry Hormann

Robert Horn
 Ray F. Horst
 Dana Dill House
 Albert G. Houtz
 Adrian H. Howell
 Leonard A. Howell
 Loman D. Howell
 William V. Howell
 Ray S. Hower
 Oscar A. Hubner
 Oscar H. Huckeriede
 Elra Hudson
 Harry Hudson
 Arnold H. Huenke
 William Huenke, Jr.
 William M. Huenke
 Theo R. Hughes
 Isaac E. Hullinger
 J. Hunninghake
 Roy E. Hunter
 Elmer Henry Hurlburt
 Rodman Hurt
 F. Hutchinson
 Fred H. Huth
 James M. Hux
 Walter L. Hydaker

—I—

Harold J. Ice
 Ray M. Idle
 Curt Edgar Ihle
 Carl Ike
 Carl Richard Ike
 Paul Arden Ingmire
 William Irnalle
 Homer C. Isern

—J—

Urban Jacob
 John Jacobs
 H. S. Jenkins
 Alton W. Jett
 Stanley C. Jett
 Otto N. Johns
 Ralph E. Jones
 Felix F. Jung
 Roy F. Jung

—K—

Lawrence B. Kaiser
 Harry A. Kamman
 Ferdinand L. Kammer
 Christ H. Kantner
 Howard Kantner
 Rollie Kantner
 Vernie Kantner
 Christ Kanton
 Charles W. Katterheinrich
 Elmer E. Katterheinrich
 E. H. Katterheinrich
 Henry W. Katterheinrich
 Herbert E. Katterheinrich
 Milton M. Kattman
 Carl G. Kaufman
 Cloyce W. Kaufman
 Theodore L. Kaufman
 Earl W. Keiber
 Vernon Keiber
 Elmer Elsworth Keith
 Charles Guy Keith
 James W. Kellerman
 Elvin A. Kellermeier
 F. C. Kellermeyer
 Fred Kellermeyer
 Leon E. Kellermeyer
 Warner Kellermeyer
 W. J. Kellermeyer
 Carl M. Kelly
 George Kelly
 James Kelley
 Joseph Kemper
 John T. Kennedy
 John W. Kennedy
 Rellie Kentner
 Hugo F. Kettler
 Willis J. Keshler
 Vennard P. Killian
 Gus F. Kinninger
 William C. Kipp
 Willis J. Kishler
 C. P. Kite
 Mortimer W. E. Klanke
 Gilbert Kleitzer
 Frederick C. Klute

Herbert Klute
 John Knauss
 Raymond J. Knipple
 Dallas V. Knoch
 Fred J. Knost
 Albert A. Koenig
 Fred Koenig
 Irwin Koepfer
 Ivan H. Koepfer
 Benjamin Koetter
 Bernard J. Koetter
 Robert Koetter
 Henry Kogge
 John Kohler
 Norbert J. Kohler
 Robert T. Kohler
 Charles H. Kohlhorst
 Charles H. Kohlperst
 J. W. Kohnan
 Charles J. Kohnen
 Harry J. Kohnen
 Robert T. Kolter
 Ralph Koons
 Russell Koons
 Andrew F. Kramer
 Philip H. Kramer
 Henry Krampe
 Harold E. Krauss
 John I. Kreiger
 Emil R. Kreitzer
 C. J. Kreitzer
 Clark C. Kridler
 Virgil T. Krites
 Roy Krogman
 F. Henry Kruel
 Fred W. Kruel
 Florence F. Kuck
 Otto Kuck
 Reinhart W. Kuck
 William A. Kuck
 H. Hunter Kuenzel
 Reinhard W. Kuhlman
 Anton Kuhn
 August F. Kuhn
 John Kuhns
 Chester H. Kunning
 Paul W. Kunning

Richard A. Kunning
 R. L. Kuntz
 Samuel G. Kurtz

—L—

Ben Lambert, Jr.
 Ben E. Lampert
 Furman A. Landis
 William Landis
 Carl Laner
 Roscoe W. Lanfersieck
 Arthur C. Langhorst
 Robert E. Langhorst
 Vernon W. Lanning
 Frederick A. Larson
 James N. Latimer
 Willis F. Laub
 Carl Lauer
 Cassius Laufersweiler
 Maurice H. Laufersweiler
 Herman J. Laut
 Melville H. J. Laut
 Raymond F. Laut
 Willis F. Laut
 Groves D. Lawrence
 Ray A. Lawton
 Junius R. Lear
 Bertice C. Lee
 Harry J. Lee
 Richard A. Lee
 Alma F. Lehmann
 John R. Leonard
 Dewey Lewis
 Harold Prince Lewis
 Roscoe V. Lewis
 Thomas H. Liggett
 Fritz Limbacher
 Albert F. Limbert
 Robert A. Limbert
 F. J. Limbracher
 Dewey Linn
 Cleo Linson
 Robert Linson
 Lowell Lipp
 Ferd Litterbeck
 Linzy Little
 Carleson Lloyd

Guy Locke
 Fred Loescher
 Herman D. Loescher
 Vincent H. Logan
 Webster Long
 Clifford A. Longanecker
 L. S. Longworth
 Guy W. Lotridge
 Elmer W. Loy
 Fred J. Lucas
 Miles W. Luering
 Anthony Luma
 Ernest L. Lusk
 Fred Lutterbeck
 Benjamin H. Lutterbein
 F. J. Lutterbein
 Wilfred Lynch
 W. T. Lynch
 Frank R. Lyne

—M—

George R. Mack
 James Madigan
 James Madison
 Ewing Mahan
 Clayton Manahan
 Edwin B. Mann
 Darione Marker
 Robert E. Marker
 Elmer Martin
 John A. Martin
 Joseph G. Martin
 Wickard B. Martin
 Robert F. Martlett
 Emil F. Marx
 Henry W. Mason
 Emil Maurer
 Jacob H. Maurer
 Herbert H. May
 Ralph C. R. May
 Rudolph H. May
 Walter C. May
 Clarence Maze
 Volney Edwin McBeth
 Forest E. McClure
 Edward F. McCune
 Fred McDermit

Walter McDermit
 William McDermit
 Alva F. McDermott
 Walter McDermott
 Charles E. McFarland
 James McFarland
 Urban J. McFarland
 Ralph McKee
 Dewey William Meier
 John A. Meier
 Walter G. Menges
 Max R. Menschel
 Francis M. Merkle
 Hugo Otto Merkle
 Walter A. Merkle
 Everett S. Mertz
 Vernon W. Mertz
 Newman McK. Metz
 Newnan N. Metz
 Raymond O. Metz
 Homer I. Metzger
 Edward Meyer
 Edwin J. Meyer
 John C. Meyer
 Joseph Meyer (two)
 Victor B. Meyer
 Charles W. Meyers
 David Meyers
 Ferdinand J. Meyers
 H. F. Meyers
 Howard F. Meyers
 A. L. Miehl
 Harry S. Miley
 Arthur H. Miller
 Elmer J. Miller
 George J. Miller
 Harry D. Miller
 Herman G. Miller
 John Miller
 John A. Miller
 Joseph B. Miller
 Ray W. Miller
 Simeon L. Miller
 Vernon O. Miller
 William C. Moell
 Arley C. Moeller
 Raymond W. Moeller

Edwin B. Mohn
 Sherman Mohn
 Harry P. Morehead
 Marion S. Moore
 Sherman Moore
 William G. Moore
 Andrew G. Morris
 George C. Morris
 John R. Morris
 Melvin L. Morris
 Ralph M. Morris
 Victor R. Morris
 Anthony H. Mosler
 Franklin Mueller
 Earl Munch
 Fred Munch
 Millard Murlin
 Donald Murray
 Lonnie A. Musser
 Albert J. Mutschler
 Charles W. Myers
 David Myers
 Ferdinand J. Myers
 Vernon O. Myers

—N—

Bertie Roy Naus
 Carl R. Naus
 Granville L. Naus
 Ralph R. Naus
 Everett L. Naylor
 Olin L. Nebergall
 Edward F. Nedderman
 Leo C. Nedderman
 Thomas Needles
 Thomas J. Needles
 Russell W. Neff
 Harry Neidermire
 Thomas J. Neidler
 Dewey F. Nelson
 Michael B. Nester
 W. G. Netrecht
 Grover E. Neuman
 Vernon B. Neuman
 Charles C. Nevergall
 Walter Wesley Newland
 Carl A. Newmier

Lester Nickel
 C. Nicodemus
 Edward J. Niemeyer
 Edgar F. P. Nieter
 Leonard W. Nieter
 Henry C. Nipgen
 Lawrence M. Nipgen
 H. S. Noble
 Willard Noble
 Vernon Noble
 Francis B. Nugent
 Andy Nuss
 Elmer A. Nuss
 Fred Nuss

—O—

C. F. W. Oberwitte
 Charles Oelrich
 Bermin Lee Ohler
 Paren Ohler
 Wilbur L. Ohlingerman
 T. M. Oldiges
 George A. Orphal
 Robert G. Orphal
 Albert Osterloh
 Aloysius B. Osterloh
 Charles J. Otting
 William H. Otting

—P—

John Paglow
 Carl W. Pape
 Edward W. Pape
 Walter H. Pape
 Ward H. Pape
 Virgil C. Parlette
 Fred A. Pauck
 Alvin Paul
 Granville G. Pepple
 Charles Anderson Perkins
 Cleveland H. Pester
 Fred D. Pester
 Henry Pfeifer
 Henry F. Pfeifer
 George S. Place
 Layton Place
 Harold L. Plankell

Richard W. Platvoet
 R. N. Pohlabeln
 Lewis J. C. Poppe
 Simpson Poppe
 Harry Potts
 William H. Potts
 Carl E. N. Prichard
 Lewis C. Pruetter
 Whylom Pugh
 Walter S. Pullins
 Carl J. Purpus
 Clarence V. Purvis
 Pleasant Pyles

—Q—

George H. Quellhorst
 Harry H. Quellhorst

—R—

Alfred H. Rabe
 William H. Rabe
 A. H. Raberding
 O. Cliff Raberding
 E. R. Rager
 Lester Rain
 Edwin H. Ramga
 Harry W. Rampe
 Harry M. Rapp
 Fred Raudabaugh
 Earl Raymond
 Cyrus Reed
 Herman J. Reed
 Herbert E. Regula
 John C. Reichelderfer
 Arnold Reiher
 Leon C. Reiher
 John H. Reinders
 A. G. Reinicke
 Julius Reithman
 Edward Rempe
 Harry Rempe
 Jacob C. Rensch
 Philip R. Rensch
 William Rensch
 Frank Rentz
 Frank X. Rentz
 August C. E. Reploh

L. L. Reynolds
 Alonzo Rhodes
 Herbert H. Rhoades
 Raymond G. Rhoades
 Russell L. Rhoades
 Kolter Richardson
 Otto Rickert
 Arthur Rider
 Orville Rider
 Louis Rietham
 Julius Riethman
 Henry W. J. Rihm
 Lee Franklin Riley
 Orville A. Riley
 Budd F. Rinehart
 Emmons D. Rinehart
 A. G. Ripploh
 John H. Ripploh
 Oscar C. Roberding
 Harvey G. Roberts
 Raymond Roberts
 Francis Robey
 Leo B. Roebuck
 George C. Roess
 Frank Roettgerman
 Ernest Rogers
 Roland Rogers
 Leo Rohr
 Marion Rohrbach
 Edgar C. Rohrbacher
 M. L. Rohrback
 A. H. Rohlfing
 E. M. Rohlfing
 Stanley B. Rohlfing
 Leo L. Roler
 Bernard Romey
 Harry E. Romshe
 Bernard J. Roney
 Clifford Rostorfer
 Frank Rostorfer
 Norman Ruck
 Ralph H. Ruck
 Erk J. Ruedebusch
 Frank Ruedebusch
 Gustave H. Ruedebusch
 Capo Ruley
 Fred L. Rupert

Elmer A. Russ
 Fred H. Ruth
 E. H. Ruther
 Edward H. Ruther
 Joseph B. Ruwoldt
 Raymond Ruwoldt
 William Ruwoldt

—S—

Harry E. Saar
 Philander Sammatinger
 Phil J. Sammetinger
 James Sampson
 Charles Sawmiller
 Andrew A. Schaefer
 C. H. Schaefer
 Clarence H. Schaefer
 Glenn Schamp
 Otto G. Schaub
 Robert C. Scheer
 Fred Schelby
 William J. Schierholt
 August Schimpf
 William A. Schlueter
 Fred Schneider
 Sylvester H. Schneider
 Carl Schmel
 Carl W. Schmehl
 Paul W. Schmidt
 Vernon Schmidt
 Alois A. Schneider
 Isador Schneider
 Louis H. Schneider
 Rudolph J. Schneider
 Sylvester H. Schneider
 Albert Schnepple
 Edwin J. Schoonover
 F. Schrimpf
 L. H. Schrimpf
 Aug. Schrimple
 Omer F. Schroeder
 Gustave G. Schroer
 Richard Schroer
 Alfred Schuler
 Peter Schuler
 Harry G. Schulte
 Walter J. Schulte

Louis Schulze
 Andrew W. Schultz
 Theodore Schultz
 John Schumm
 Edward P. Schunck
 Barney Schwark
 Joseph H. Schwenzer
 Oscar W. Schwepe
 Edgar S. Scott
 Bursell C. Scubier
 B. H. Seger
 Irvin Seibert
 Robert Shafer
 Fred M. Shamp
 Carl L. Shanks
 Earl Shanks
 Harry C. Shannon
 Wayne G. Sharland
 Robert J. Sharp
 Glenn Shaver
 Anthony E. Shaw
 Carl D. Shaw
 Isaac Milton Shaw
 Neal W. Shaw
 Wardner Shaw
 John Shawn
 Philip E. Sheets
 August F. Sherman
 Olin Sheng
 J. H. Shinaberry
 Charles H. Shinner
 John V. R. Shipman
 Lewis C. Shipman
 Lee R. Shoffstall
 F. A. Shuffelton
 Howard R. Shuler
 George A. Shuster
 Calvin A. Sibert
 Richard E. Sibert
 Ralph A. Siferd
 Arthur Sikes
 Leo J. H. Silk
 Sterling C. Sillin
 Delfa Silver
 Fred Silvers
 C. E. Simons
 O. L. Simmons

Charles H. Skinner
 Hugo Skinner
 Albert H. Slater
 Francis E. Sloan
 Ira O. Smezey
 Anthony Smith
 Benjamin V. Smith
 Bud Wesley Smith
 Donald Smith
 Frank Smith
 Harry Smith
 Otis G. Smith
 Theo R. Smith
 Edward L. Snyder
 Herman E. Snyder
 John E. Snyder
 Leo Ray Snyder
 Herman H. Soelman
 Rollin M. Soess
 Carl Fred Solms
 Edward F. Sommer
 Hursell C. Soubrier
 Harry A. South
 Earl F. Speckman
 Edgar F. Speckman
 Frederick J. Speckman
 F. F. Leonard Speckman
 Lloyd George Speckman
 Robert S. Spees
 Rollin W. Spees
 Walter E. Spees
 Stanley Sanford Sproul
 Ralph Spyker
 Virgil L. Spyker
 Vernon E. Staup
 Collin Steele
 Harvey Steele
 Eugene A. Steinbaugh
 Melvin E. Steinbaugh
 Albin G. Steinecker
 Ferdinand L. Steinke
 Isadore C. Steinke
 Gail Stephens
 Raymond S. Stephens
 Gail L. Stevens
 Ray Stevens
 Dallas W. Stevenson

James H. Steward
 J. H. Stewart
 Jesse L. Stewart
 Harold H. Stilson
 Melvin E. Stinebaugh
 Lee Stockwell
 L. M. Stockwell
 Ray L. Stockwell
 Richard Stoeker
 Eugene A. Stonbaugh
 Orval Stoner
 Wilbert Stonerock
 Elmer Stout
 Howard Streight
 Marcy Streight
 Joseph W. Stroud
 Levi M. Stuckwell
 Henry E. Stueve
 John G. Stueve
 Fred Sullivan
 M. A. Sullivan
 Edwin F. Sunderman
 Leo F. Sunderman
 John J. Sunsaker
 Albert Swartz
 Albert McK. Swartz
 Clarence R. Swartz
 Edward A. Swartz
 Herman L. Swartz
 Ira Sweezy
 Ferrell Swink

—T—

Henry Tangeman
 George Taylor
 Carl Tester
 Leo Tester
 C. Theodore
 Charles H. Thieman
 Henry Thobe
 Joseph Thobe
 George A. Thomas
 Jesse Thomas
 Harry K. Thompson
 Alva G. Thrush
 Torrance H. Thrush
 A. A. Timmerman

C. J. Tippe

Alfred J. Tobens

Raymond C. Tomhafe

Harry A. Truesdale

Roy R. Truesdale

August G. Tschuor

—U—

William H. Uetrecht

William B. Urnstead

William Utrecht, Jr.

—V—

Frank George Vagedes

Frank A. Vahle

Charles H. Valentine

Elmer Vallo

Oscar Vallo

Peter Vanderhorst

Harlan Hackett VanHorn

Leroy VanHorn

Torrence Eli VanHorn

Alfred W. Veit

Ernest O. Veit

Fred C. Voglesang

Andrew J. Volbert

John W. Volbrecht

Dorsey S. Volgamott

Otto Vordermark

Joseph O. Voress

Charles E. Vorhees

Charles St. L. Vorhees

Henry O. Vorhees

John W. Vorhees, Jr.

Oscar Voorhees

Raymond V. Vorhees

Harry H. Vornholt

Huldreich R. Vornholt

R. H. Vornholt

Charles B. Vossler

Jackson G. Vulgamott

—W—

Charles W. Wagner

Louis M. Wagner

Albert E. Wagstaff

Forest E. Wagstaff

Frank H. Wahrer

Robert J. Wahrer

Ray Walker

William G. Walter

William J. Walter

William Walters

Joseph Walsh

Leonard Waterman

Melvin Watkins

John Weadock, Jr.

John Francis Weadock

Carlton E. Weaver

Thomas J. Weaver

Gale Webb

Pearl Webb

Adrian J. Weber

A. T. Weber

John M. Weber

Carl Wehmeyer

M. W. Wehner

William J. Wehrle

Peter Wehring

Joseph A. Wehrman

Milton W. Wehrner

John Weiskettle

Louis Edward Weist

Leroy Wellington

Vernon D. Wellington

Edward B. Wellman

Ethel E. Wellman

Fred F. Wellman

Walter Wellman

Fred Wenker

Gustav Werling

Frank K. Werst

Felix J. Wesch

Felix J. Weseli

Frank K. Wetz

S. U. Wetzel

Robert N. Wheeler

Harold Whetstone

Jesse C. Whetstone

John C. White

Robert R. White

Daniel G. Whitehead

Guy A. Whitehead

John E. Whitehead

Charles A. Whiteman

Harry Whyman

Benjamin Wibbeler

Ferdinand W. Wiehe

Clarence F. Wieman

Roy Wierman

Roy Wiernab

Edgar Henry Wierth

Fred Wieser

Fred C. Wiesner

Roy Wildermuth

Thomas Wiley

Samuel A. Wilges

August Wilke

Russell William

Alfred J. Williams

Alva C. Williams

Benjamin Williams

Joseph S. Williams

Manferd Williams

Mansfield Williams

Walker Williams

Willard Williams

Guy Lowen Wills

John C. Winegardner

Grant Winemiller

Marion H. Winemiller

Leonard Winkler

Carl F. Wintzer

Julius H. Wisener

John E. Wiss

Gary D. Wiswell

Vernon J. Woehler

Waid H. Woehler

William H. Woehler

W. Woehmeyer

Willard B. Woehrmyer

Paul Wollam

Royce Woodward

Clifford L. Wright

Walter C. Wuebbeling

Louis E. Wust

Gary D. Wuswell

—Y—

True Wallace Yale

Fred H. Yoder

Charles S. Young
John I. Young
John Youngs

—Z—

Cloyd Zeiders
John E. Ziebarth

Herman Ziegenfelder
Charles A. Zink
Charles E. Zink
William August Zink
William Lloyd Zink
Raymond Zint

C. G. Zofkie
Lawrence L. Zorn
Edward Zwiebel
Edward D. B. Zwiebel
Raymond H. Zwiebel
Oscar A. Zwiebel

LOCAL UNIT OF THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD.

For some years prior to the World war Auglaize county had a well equipped company of the Ohio National Guard—old Company K of the 2d infantry regiment, stationed at St. Marys. When the flurry on the Mexican border in 1916 demanded a demonstration on the part of the United States, with the dispatch of a military force over the border, Company K was federalized and became a part of this expedition, serving thus from September, 1916, to March, 1917. It was mustered out of the Federal service at Ft. Sheridan and restored to its former status as a unit in the Ohio National Guard and thus was an organized unit when this country took a hand in the World war a month later. Company K again was federalized and mobilized at Camp Sheridan, where it became Company B of the 146th regiment of the 37th Division, National army, and on May 15, 1918, was transferred to Camp Lee (Va.), whence a month later it sailed with this division for France, arriving at Brest on June 22, 1918. A week later this division was assigned to service in the Beaumont sector and on July 25 took over the front lines in the Bacarat sector, remaining there until September 12 when it went into action in the Argonne drive and on September 26 took part in the Avacourt engagement. It then captured Montfaucon, where it remained until October 1, when it was sent to the St. Mihiel sector, holding there the front from October 4 to October 14, when it was relieved and sent into Belgium, where it took part in the Ypres campaign and in the Lys first and second offensives, and was there when the armistice was signed on November 11. This company, with the division to which it was attached, sailed for the United States

on March 13, 1919, and on March 31 was sent to Camp Dix and thence to Camp Sherman (Chillicothe, Ohio), where it was discharged on April 13, having paraded enroute at Clinton, Akron and Columbus.

Among the officers of old Company K was Lieutenant Emil F. Marx, of St. Marys, who had followed its fortunes both in Mexico and overseas, as above set out, and who upon his return to St. Marys immediately set about in a movement looking to the reorganization of a company of the National Guard at that place. He found plenty of willing volunteers and on June 22, 1919, the new company was mustered in as Company K of the 148th regiment (infantry), 37th Division, United States National Guard of Ohio, under the new National Guard law, with Captain Marx commanding. On March 1, 1921, Captain Marx was promoted to the rank of major. Company K now (1922) has eighty men and is officered as follows: Captain, Arnold F. Ruher; first lieutenant, Thomas J. Needles; second lieutenant, Joseph E. Walsh. A medical detachment of the 148th regiment also is stationed at St. Marys, this detachment having thirty-four men and three officers, these latter being Frank E. Ayers, captain; George M. Raudebaugh, captain, and Ivan W. Wright, first lieutenant.

With the reorganization of Company K, under the new law, the people of St. Marys united in a movement to procure for the city an adequate armory and in due time there was erected a handsome armory building overlooking Memorial park, which serves not only as an armory but as a much needed and very useful community house. This armory was erected at a cost of \$59,000, of which \$6,000 was raised by the people of the town and \$4,000 was provided by the St. Marys Community Welfare Association, which also donated the ground, the remainder of the expense being assumed by the state. The building, which was designed in accordance with approved official plans, is fire proof and is provided with a room for the meetings of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic and rooms for the company club and canteen.

The drill floor is 50 by 100 feet in dimension and carries equipment for basket ball and other indoor athletics. When this armory movement was projected Roy E. Layton, of Wapakoneta, a veteran of the Spanish-American war, was adjutant general and director of state armories and he gave to the building his close personal attention. He now is judge advocate general of the 37th Division.

THE AMERICAN LEGION.

There are American Legion posts at Wapakoneta, St. Marys, New Bremen, Minster, Waynefield and New Knoxville, all live, alert organizations banded together under a general county council of posts, all members of which not only are alertly interested in the common cause of the ex-service men but in the general principles of the patriotic order, whose constitution is based upon the declaration that "for God and country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a 100 per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make Right the master of Might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness."

In the spring of 1922 Auglaize Post, No. 330, at Wapakoneta bought a lot on Blackhoof street just south of the river bridge and adopted the plans for a memorial home for the post, the same to combine the several purposes of a meeting place for the post, a community center at the county seat and an athletic auditorium. This post was organized in December, 1919, and Anthony E. Shaw was elected first post commander; Donnet Chiesa, vice commander; Clyde Haman, adjutant; Carl Abe, finance officer; Dana House, historian, and

Cletus Zofkie, chaplain. Dr. George B. Faulder was elected commander for 1921 and Neal W. Shaw is the present (1922) commander of the post, which has an active membership of more than two hundred, a gradual growth from the sixty-six charter members.

CHAPTER XV

SIDELIGHTS ON AUGLAIZE COUNTY HISTORY.

In much that has been presented in this volume particular stress has been laid upon the duty this generation owes to the memory of the pioneers—the pioneers of Auglaize county, to whom this book is tenderly dedicated. This is a tribute that all alike owe and one of the most gratifying signs of the times is the constantly recurring evidence that it is coming more and more, as the years pass, to be paid with increasing respect and a more wholehearted regard for the services so courageously and nobly rendered by that stalwart generation that wrought here in the days when no labor was performed without difficulty.

When President Harding returned to his home at Marion, Ohio, on the Fourth of July, 1922, to participate in the ceremonies incident to the celebration of his home town's centennial anniversary, he wrote for his own newspaper, the *Marion Star*, a signed editorial that is so fully expressive of this sentiment of devotion to the memory of the pioneers of Ohio, applying as directly to the pioneers of Auglaize county as to those of Marion county or to those of any of the counties of northwestern Ohio, as eminently to be worthy of preservation in the permanent chronicles of this region. Said the President:

“While Marion is celebrating the centennial of the city's founding it is fine to rejoice in the coming together again, to find happiness in the exchange of sentiments born of homecoming, to recall the pride in things accomplished, and above all else appraise the qualities of men and measures which made us what we are today. The latter is essential to the preparedness for greater progress in the future.

“Sturdy men pioneered the way to early settlement—and sturdy women, too. They blazed the way of development in Ohio and sent many of their sons and daughters to the peaceful conquest of the greater West—the Mississippi and Missouri valleys. Resolute and able men made secure the social order here, and simple and courageous men blended determination with genius and made the industrial beginning. They had little of wealth, but they wrought wealth out of opportunity. Only a few knew their struggles, their sacrifices, but honesty, simplicity, industry, capacity and determination are known to have been the chief essentials of their success. These make for success anywhere and are available to all who aspire.

“Let Marion preserve every good lesson of the yesterdays and resolve to go on, adding to the stride in industry and commerce and determine that every enlargement in material growth shall reflect larger progress in the finer attainments which make a community worth while. The fit counterpart to the city of material success is the city of happy homes, ample education, fortunate and profitable employment, worship of God facilitated, a civic conscience and a community soul.”

Along this very line and at about the same time a thoughtful commentator wrote anent the exhumation at Maumee of a skeleton supposed to have been that of a soldier who fell at the battle of Fallen Timbers the following bit of expressive sentiment for the *Toledo Blade*: “We dig up bones from a Maumee battlefield. It’s a good thing for us now and then to have something to remind us that life was not always so soft for Americans as it is now. We glide smoothly up the river road and down again on pneumatic tires and sitting on cushions. Pretty nice for us. But somebody had to fight for all this and die for it and have his bones dug up that we might be reminded of it. We shall never be grateful enough in all this country, which was once a frontier, for the hardihood and courage and good sense of the pioneer fathers of the nation. They wore pants without creases and swung axes instead of golf clubs. It’s easy to sit on a foundation. It takes rough work to lay the stone.”

AUGLAIZE COUNTY PICTURED IN FICTION.

The region comprised within the confines of Auglaize county has attracted the attention of at least one writer of fiction, who has drawn upon his imagination to repeople the scene with characters once active here and in so doing has worked out a very interesting historical romance, the incidents of the story having to do with the stirring actions taking place hereabout during the time of the War of 1812. In his tale, "The Ward of Tecumseh" (J. B. Lippincott Company, 1914), Crittenden Marriott follows the fortunes of a young white girl, the motherless daughter of a Frenchman who had left the Marietta colony following the death of his wife and taking the child with him had penetrated the then wilderness and settled at Pickawillany where upon his death not long afterward he had entrusted the child to Tecumseh, the Shawnee chief, whose ward she thus became and who was reared at the Indian council town of Wapakoneta, conforming in all ways to the customs of her savage protectors. She is seventeen years of age when the story opens and the trail of her adventures following the beginning of hostilities carries the reader easily along the way from Wapakoneta down the Piqua trail, thence back to Girty's Town (St. Marys), along the river trail to Ft. Wayne, down the Maumee to Defiance, with vivid pictures of the battle of the Raisin river and of the battle of the Thames, where Tecumseh met his death and where his ward eventually found the way to happiness with the dashing young lover she had acquired along the way. In the story reappear Colonel Johnson, the Indian agent at Piqua, Simon Girty, Tecumseh, old Chief Blackhoof, Bright-horn, Peter Bondy (Pierre Bondie) and some others whose names have become familiar to the readers of local history, and some interesting pictures of the times and circumstances are drawn by the author.

It will be permissible to give here Mr. Marriott's conception of the probable condition of things at Wapakoneta at the time his story opens. "The sun was about to climb above

the rim of the world," he wrote in introducing the heroine. "Already the white dawn was silvering the gray mists that lay alike on plain and in river and half hid the mossy green boles of the trees that stood at the edge of the forest. From beneath it sounded the low murmur of the water of the Auglaize, toiling sluggishly through the timbers that choked its bed and gave it its Indian name of Cowthenake, Fallen Timber river. High above it whimpered the humming rush of wild ducks. From the black wall of the forest that led northward to the Black Swamp came the waking call of birds.

"Steadily the light grew. The first yellow shafts shimmered along the surface of the mist, stirring it to sudden life. Out of the draperies of fog, points seemed to rise, black against the curtain of the dawn. To them the mists clung with moist, tenacious fingers, resisting for the moment the call of the sun, then shimmering away, leaving only a trace of tears to sparkle in the sunlight.

"Steadily the sun mounted and steadily the mists shrank. The spectral points, first evidence that land and not water lay beneath the fog, broadened downward, here into tufts of hemlock, there into smoother, more regular shapes that spoke of human workmanship. Louder and louder grew the rippling of the river. Then, abruptly, the carpet of mist rose in the air, shredding into a thousand wisps of white; for a moment it obscured the view, then it was gone, floating away toward the great forest as if seeking sanctuary in its chilly depths. The black river was still half veiled, but the land lay bare, sparkling with jeweled dew drops.

"Close beside the river, on an elevation that rose, island like, above the surrounding plain, stood the Indian village, row after row of cabins, strongly built of heavy logs, roofed with poles and chinked with moss and clay. In and out among them moved half-wolfish dogs that had crept from their lairs to welcome the rising sun.

"No human being was visible, but an indistinct murmur, coming from nowhere and everywhere, mingled with the rush of the river and the whisper of the wind in the green rushes

and the tall grass. The huts seemed to stir visibly; first from one and then from a score, men, women and children bobbed out, some merrily, some grumpily, to stretch themselves in the sunshine and to breathe in the soft morning air before it began to quiver in the baking heat that would surely and swiftly come. For early June was no less hot in northern Ohio in 1812, when the whole country was one vast alternation of swamp and forest, than it is a hundred years later when the land has been drained and the forest cut away."

It was amid such a scene that the heroine, the ward of Tecumseh, made her appearance. "Of the Christian God she knew nothing," the author pointed out; "missionaries had not yet brought him to Wapakoneta, though the time when they would do so was close at hand." The hero of the tale first makes his appearance on his ancestral acres in Alabama, where comes to him the chance to go to Ohio. "And to go to Ohio—the very name was a challenge," says the story. "The Ohio of 1812 was not the Ohio of today, not the smiling level country, set with towns, crisscrossed with railways, plastered with rich farms where the harvest leaps to the tickling of the hoe. It was far away, black with the vast shadow of perpetual forests, beneath which quaked great morasses. Within it roved bears, deer, buffalo, panthers, venomous snakes, renegades, murderers, Indians—the bravest and most warlike that the land had yet known. Across it ran the frontier, beyond which all things were possible. For thirty years and more, in peace and in war, British officers and British agents had crossed it and had passed up and down behind it, loaded with arms and provisions and rewards for the scalps of American men and women and children. Steadily, irresistibly, unceasingly, the Americans had driven back the frontier, making every fresh advance with their blood, their sweat and their agony; and as steadily the redcoats had retreated, but had ever sent their savage emissaries to do their devilish work. Ohio had taken the place of Kentucky as a watchword with the adventurous youth of the East; to grow

old without giving Ohio a chance to kill one had become almost a reproach."

Mr. Marriott's conception of the scene at the council house at Wapakoneta where the Indian chiefs of this region were debating Tecumseh's proposal to join with the British is stirring. "Little sleep was there for anyone in the Shawnee camp that night," he wrote. "Hour after hour the witch drums boomed and the leaping ghost fires flamed to the far-off blinking stars. Hour after hour the thunderous chanting of the braves shivered through the forest, waking the resting birds and scaring the four-footed prowlers of the night. Hour after hour the chiefs debated peace and war, now listening to the words of the redcoat emissary of the British king, now hearkening to Tecumseh, now turning ear to Catahecasa (Blackhoof) or to Wathethewela (Brighthorn) as they spoke for peace, declaring the British would fight for a time and then go away, but that the Long Knives from the south would stay forever. Hour after hour the wheeling stars, a silver dust behind the chariot of the moon, rose, passed and sank. Hour after hour the mounting mists of the Black Swamp wavered and fell back, driven away by the heat of the fires and the hot breaths of the warriors. Dawn was breaking in the east as Tecumseh and his devoted few struck their hatchets into the war post and left the council to prepare for their northern venture, leaving the bulk of the Shawnees loyal to the Seventeen Fires."

Concerning the heroine's progress down the trail from Girty's Town, along the St. Marys river to Ft. Wayne, the author's picture points out that "the road led through the Black Swamp, that great morass of water-soaked quagmire that covered all northwestern Ohio, stretching forty miles from north to south and 120 miles from west to east, from Ft. Wayne to the Cuyahoga and the Western Reserve. All over it giant trees soared heavenward, springing from sunlight-starved ground on which no undergrowth could root. Between lay fallen limbs and rotting tree trunks, thick

water-soaked moss and carpets of moldering leaves, layer upon layer. No one that had crossed it ever forgot the treacherous quicksands that hid beneath the blighted plants, the crumbling logs half sunk in shiny pools where copperheads lay in wait, the low-hung branches that dripped moisture to the stunted vegetation, the clouds of venomous mosquitoes, the brilliant flies that clustered upon the dead even before it was dead, the labyrinths of tortuous runways. Except at midday no ray of sunshine ever penetrated the canopy of interlaced branches that arched overhead and that, to a soaring bird, must have looked as solid and unbroken as a grassy field.

“Underfoot the ground was spongy with standing water that moved sluggishly, if at all, through creeks and rivers almost level with the surface. Shallow pools, alive with water-snakes, were everywhere. A few roads, so-called, ran through this swamp. Mad Anthony Wayne had chopped a way through it from Greenville to Ft. Defiance, that time he crushed the Miamis’ pride and retrieved Harmar’s and St. Clair’s defeats. Hull and his army were even then carving another road through it from Urbana to Detroit and disgrace and defeat. A third road, little more than a trail, followed down the Auglaize. Across these north-south passages ran the east-west road down the St. Marys from Girty’s Town to Ft. Wayne * * * an Indian trail broadened by white men who had hewed down the great trees that had stood along it, making a rutted, stump-encumbered mudhole-filled passage through which a wagon must move slowly and perilously. Once started along it the teamster must go on. There was no place to turn aside and few places where it was possible to turn back.”

SIMON KENTON AND SIMON GIRTY AT WAPAKONETA.

All the chronicles of the days of Indian occupancy in northwestern Ohio are replete with references to the operations of the infamous Girty brothers, particularly of the evil deeds of those despicable renegades, Simon and James Girty,

and it will be but proper in this connection to make some further reference to the operations of these men in the territory now comprised within Auglaize county. As previously has been set out it was the trading post of James Girty at the head of pirogue navigation on the St. Marys river that gave the original name of Girty's Town to the present city of St. Marys. When after the treaty of Greenville in 1795 the white man's law began to be partially operative throughout this region, James Girty recognized the "handwriting on the wall" so far as it concerned persons of his ilk and it was not long thereafter that he sold his trading post to Charlie Murray and moved down the Maumee. Though the name of Simon Girty, through his connection with the burning at the stake of Col. William Crawford, up in the Sandusky country in 1782, and other similar Indian atrocities, has perhaps been held more widely in execration than those of the other Girtys, all attained a distinctly bad eminence and some of the older chronicles preserve the tradition that James Girty was "a much more heartless renegade than his brother Simon."

It is narrated that the four Girty brothers were taken prisoners by the Indians in Pennsylvania in their youth and grew up to the life of the wild, James being adopted by the Shawnees, Simon by the Delawares (or Senecas), George by the Delawares and Thomas by another tribe. Upon reaching manhood Simon Girty left the Indians and enlisted with the English at Pittsburg, but presently deserted and with those other renegades, McKee and Elliott, reverted to the wild, thereafter his hand being found against the whites during the French and Indian war and during the later frontier struggles and with the British during the War of 1812 and was long a trusted counsellor of the Indians. Butterfield's History says that "Simon was the most conspicuous in his day and was a leading and influential chief among the allied Indians, and was ever present and took an active part in all their councils and deliberations." Concerning the operations of James Girty at Girty's Town (St. Marys), this same authority says

that "James enjoyed for a little over seven years a complete monopoly of the Indian trade at his trading house. He shipped peltry down the St. Marys river to the Maumee, thence down that stream to the Rapid and from that place across Lake Erie to Detroit, returning with stores to be disposed of to the Indians at large profits. During his residence at what is now St. Marys he was frequently frightened by reports of the American troops, but until the fall of 1790 they all proved to be false alarms. He had timely warning of the approach of General Harmar and moved his goods first to the headwaters of the Maumee and immediately after down the river to the Grand Glaize." In the still interesting "Western Annals" it is said of James Girty that "in the most sanguinary spirit he added all the vices of the depraved frontier men, with whom he frequently associated. It is represented that he often visited Kentucky at the time of the first settlement, and many of the inhabitants felt the effects of his courage and cruelty. Neither age nor sex found mercy at his hands. His delight was in carnage. When unable to walk, in consequence of disease, he laid low with his hatchet captive women and children who came within his reach. Traders who were acquainted with him say that so furious was he that he would not have turned on his heel to save a prisoner from the flames. His pleasure was to see new and refined tortures inflicted and to perfect this gratification he frequently gave directions. To this barbarian are to be attributed many of the cruelties charged upon his brother Simon." At the beginning of the War of 1812 he retired to Canada and later settled in Middle Sister island, where he died on April 17, 1817.

"Come, all you good people, wherever you be,
Pray draw near awhile and listen to me:
A story I'll tell you which happened of late
Concerning brave Crawford's most cruel fate."

Here is the introduction to one of the real American frontier ballads, the theme of which was the horrid torture and burning at the stake of Col. William Crawford by Indians in 1782. Simon Girty was one of the active participants in this cruel act, which was but one among many infamies which caused his name to be execrated throughout the whole Ohio and Indiana frontier country in the days when white men were beginning to make settlements here. It is said of him, however, that he "was a bosom friend of Simon Kenton and once saved the latter from being killed by the Indians, who had taken him prisoner." Concerning this incident, it is narrated in the publications of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society (vol. vii, p. 75) that in October, 1778, Simon Kenton, whose name is inseparably connected with the early tales of this frontier, was captured along the Ohio river by Indians. His companion, Montgomery, was killed and scalped. It was charged by the Indians that Kenton and Montgomery had been stealing horses from the Indian chillicothe or village (now Oldtown in the vicinity of Xenia) and attempting to run them across the Ohio into Kentucky. Kenton was taken to the Indian village and compelled to run the gauntlet. The spot where this grim performance was enacted is now marked by a stone marker erected by the society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Kenton was beaten with switches and clubs and at each blow his captors jeered "Steal Indian hoss, hey?" Blackfish, then chief of the Shawnees at that point, interviewed him in no polite language. Kenton was strapped to an unbroken colt and taken to the Mad river village west of the present city of Springfield. Then he was taken to Machack (West Liberty) and thence to Wapatomica (near Zanesfield in Logan county). Kenton was sitting on the floor in the latter place when in marched Simon and James Girty, John Ward and Indians, with eight captives and seven scalps. Simon recognized his old time friend and interested himself in his behalf. Remarkable as it may appear, Girty was greatly affected by the meeting. He bought him a new outfit at the traders and successfully in-

terceded with the chiefs for Kenton's life. Some time afterward a war party returned with the news that they had been defeated. Desiring revenge and finding a white captive in the village they seized upon Kenton. At Girty's suggestion the captive was taken to Solomons Town, not far away, where Girty had his lodge, but the Indians demanded that they proceed to Wapakoneta and appear before the great council. This was done and Kenton's heart sank as he entered the door, for he saw about him dark and scowling faces which boded no good. All present grasped Girty's hand but refused that of Kenton. The warriors made alternate speeches nearly all night. Girty frequently spoke with feeling of his friend, how that he had once saved his life and that he would give any sum to have him preserved. The council finally decided upon Kenton's death and Girty broke the news to him. However, Girty persuaded them to select the Sandusky country as the place of torture and, sending word, he bribed a trader, who by considerable sums of money and goods ransomed Kenton from his captors. Kenton thus was permitted to get on to Detroit and finally got back to Kentucky.

Simon Kenton afterward made his home in this region and died in the neighboring county of Logan in 1836, he then being eighty-one years of age, and was buried there. His body later was moved to Urbana, where his grave is marked by an appropriate stone, recalling William Hubbard's poem "At the Grave of Simon Kenton," beginning:

"Tread lightly, this is hallowed ground; tread reverently here!

Beneath this sod in silence sleeps the brave old pioneer,
Who never quailed in darkest hour, whose heart ne'er felt
a fear;

Tread lightly, then, and here bestow the tribute of a tear."

CAPTAIN ELLIOTT BEFRIENDED BY ANDY JACKSON.

Concerning Captain Elliott, the old Government blacksmith at the Indian village at Wapakoneta, who afterward served as first sheriff of Auglaize county and who died at his home at St. Marys in the spring of 1859, it is written that he had command of a company under General Winchester during the War of 1812 and participated in the bloody battle of the River Raisin. At the conclusion of the capitulation he, with other prisoners, was marched to Malden and thence, through the deep snow and in bitterly cold weather, to Amherstburg, where the 540 prisoners were crowded into a wood-yard without shelter. Three days later they were started on the march to Ft. George on the Niagara strait, where after suffering "great hardships from the severity of the weather, the want of provisions and the inhumanity of the guards," they were paroled and returned home by way of Erie and Pittsburg and thence down the Ohio. Upon returning to his home in Highland county, Captain Elliott resumed his trade of blacksmithing and presently moved to Miami county, where he was engaged in that same line when three years later he was appointed smith at the Wapakoneta agency. In 1832 when the Wapakoneta reservation was taken over from the Indians the Government agent, James B. Gardner, "refused to settle with him and ordered him off the reservation and confiscated his property." It was then that Captain Elliott moved over to St. Marys and established himself there, where he spent the remainder of his life.

It is narrated that not long after locating at St. Marys he presented his claim against the Government for losses sustained in his ejection from Wapakoneta, but that General Cass, then secretary of war, refused to accede to the demand on the ground that "there was no precedent for it." Captain Elliott then concluded to go to Washington and call personally on President Jackson. He found no difficulty in getting an interview with the President and when the latter found that his caller was the second man who had set foot on the shore

at Malden during the War of 1812 became interested in him and asked what his mission was in Washington. Captain Elliott told the President of the treatment he had received at Gardner's hands, whereupon the President rose and, taking his hat and cane, said, "Come with me, Captain Elliott." Walking with his caller to the war office, the President took Elliott before the secretary of war and said, "General Cass, this is Captain Elliott, of Ohio. Audit his claim and pay it. Good morning, sir." "Sit down, Captain," said the secretary. In about twenty minutes the account was hunted out and it was but little later when Captain Elliott had a warrant on the treasury for his money and was soon on his way home rejoicing.

JONATHAN CHAPMAN ("JOHNNY APPLESEED").

A frequent visitor in this section during the pioneer period from about 1820 up to the time of his death in 1847 was that picturesque character, Jonathan Chapman, or "Johnny Appleseed," who created so distinct an impression upon the people of that period throughout central and western Ohio and eastern Indiana that his name still is held in remembrance through all that region. Quite a literature has grown up around this quaint character and in all the counties in which his gentle presence was felt during the long period of his wandering stories are told of him, some legendary, no doubt, but all interesting. From the best accounts it would appear that Chapman was born at Springfield, Mass., in 1775. He always was reticent concerning himself and his biographers thus have been forced often into the realm of conjecture when trying to account for his wandering ways. It is known, however, that from boyhood he was intensely fond of the outdoor way of living and that an instinctive love for botanical research drove him to the fields and woods. His singular penchant for planting apple seeds must have been developed prior to his coming West, for it is said that upon his first appearance on the Ohio, above Steubenville, he was in charge of

two canoes, lashed together and laden with apple seeds gathered from the cider presses of Pennsylvania. That was about 1806, three years after Ohio had become a state. Thereafter his operations were confined to this state and to eastern Indiana. His field of operations at first were chiefly confined to the Muskingum valley, but presently were extended and the older chronicles state that his first visit to what is now Auglaize county was made about 1820, when he planted an orchard on the Berryman farm in Logan township and another on the Barrington farm south of St. Marys. Thereafter he made annual visits here for the purpose of pruning and otherwise tending his nurseries and repairing the protective fences it was his wont to erect around the young orchards, and also to distribute seeds and seedlings to the neighboring settlers. He also had a nursery on the Auglaize and others between here and Lake Erie, as well as over in eastern Indiana, where his last days were spent.

Prof. J. D. Simkins's review of the history of St. Marys neighborhood (1901) quotes Samuel Scott, one of the pioneers of that place, as saying that he often had seen "Johnny" and that he was peculiar in dress, manner and habits. He invariably wore cast-off clothes and if he had a good suit no one ever saw him wearing it. He went barefoot in the summer, or wore sandals of his own make, and in winter wore shoes that had been discarded by others. When he would run short of a hat it was his custom to devise another out of pasteboard. In the reminiscences of the late A. J. Linzee, written thirty years or more ago, Mr. Linzee sets out that "I knew 'Johnny Appleseed' very well, for during the years from 1837 to 1845 he usually stayed over night with us on the 'Old Town' farm (west of St. Marys) on an average of twice a year. He always wore a coffee-sack shirt, exhibited great religious zeal (was a Swedenborgian), never slept on a bed but on a rug in front of the fireplace, and always distributed tracts."

By some it was thought that "Johnny" was not as destitute as he appeared to be and that he was the owner of a

farm some place in Ohio. All agreed that he was a peculiar, harmless, loving, quaint character. The Indians loved him because of his innate kindness and sympathetic nature and favored him in all ways possible. Although his apple trees were not grafted and thus not of the largest value, yet the apples from these trees were much appreciated in the days before the more cultivated nurseries took the field, and some of his trees are still standing. At Mansfield twenty years or more ago the old settlers of that neighborhood caused to be erected to his memory a modest marble shaft, suitably inscribed to the "pioneer apple nurseryman of Highland county, from 1810-1830."

In a review of the life and works of this quaint character published in Harper's *New Monthly Magazine* for November, 1871, under the heading "A Pioneer Hero," it is pointed out that "in personal appearance Chapman was a small, wiry man, full of restless activity; he had long dark hair, a scanty beard that was never shaved, and keen black eyes that sparkled with a peculiar brightness. His dress was of the oddest description. Generally, even in the coldest weather, he went barefooted, but sometimes, for his long journeys, he would make himself a rude pair of sandals; at other times he would wear any cast-off foot-covering he chanced to find—a boot on one foot and an old brogan or a moccasin on the other. It appears to have been a matter of conscience with him never to purchase shoes, although he was rarely without money enough to do so. * * * His dress was generally composed of cast-off clothing that he had taken in payment for apple trees; and as the pioneers were far less extravagant than their descendants in such matters, the homespun and buckskin garments that they discarded would not be very elegant or serviceable. In his later years, however, he seems to have thought that even this kind of second-hand raiment was too luxurious, as his principal garment was made of a coffee sack, in which he cut holes for his head and arms to pass through, and pronounced it 'a very

serviceable cloak, and as good clothing as any man need wear.'

"Thus strangely clad, he was perpetually wandering through forests and morasses, and suddenly appearing in white settlements and Indian villages; but there must have been some rare force of gentle goodness dwelling in his looks and breathing in his words, for it is the testimony of all who knew him that, notwithstanding his ridiculous attire, he was always treated with the greatest respect by the rudest frontiersman, and, what is a better test, the boys of the settlements forbore to jeer at him. * * * The Indians also treated Johnny with the greatest kindness. By these wild and sanguinary savages he was regarded as a 'great medicine man,' on account of his strange appearance, eccentric actions and, especially, the fortitude with which he could endure pain, in proof of which he would often thrust pins and needles into his flesh. * * * During the War of 1812, when the frontier settlers were tortured and slaughtered by the savage allies of Great Britain, Johnny Appleseed continued his wanderings, and was never harmed by the roving bands of hostile Indians. On many occasions the impunity with which he ranged the country enabled him to give the settlers warning of approaching danger in time to allow them to take refuge in their block-houses before the savages could attack them. Our informant refers to one of these instances, when the news of Hull's surrender came like a thunderbolt upon the frontier. Large bands of Indians and British were destroying everything before them and murdering defenseless women and children, and even the block-houses were not always a sufficient protection. At this time Johnny traveled day and night, warning the people of the approaching danger. He visited every cabin and delivered this message: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, and he hath annointed me to blow the trumpet in the wilderness, and sound an alarm in the forest; for, behold, the tribes of the heathen are round about your doors, and a devouring flame followeth after them.' The aged man who narrated this incident said that he could

feel even now the thrill that was caused by this prophetic announcement of the wild-looking herald of danger, who aroused the family on a bright moonlight midnight with his piercing voice. Refusing all offers of food and denying himself a moment's rest, he traversed the border day and night until he had warned every settler of the approaching peril.

"In 1838—thirty-seven years after his appearance on Licking creek—Johnny noticed that civilization, wealth and population were pressing into the wilderness of Ohio. Hitherto he had easily kept just in advance of the wave of settlement; but now towns and churches were making their appearance, and even, at long intervals, the stage-driver's horn broke the silence of the grand old forests, and he felt that his work was done in the region in which he had labored so long. He visited every house, and took a solemn farewell of all the families. The little girls who had been delighted with his gifts of fragments of calico and ribbons had become sober matrons, and the boys who had wondered at his ability to bear the pain caused by running needles into his flesh were heads of families. With parting words of admonition he left them and turned his steps steadily toward the setting sun.

"During the succeeding nine years he pursued his eccentric avocation on the western border of Ohio and in Indiana. In the summer of 1847, when his labors had literally borne fruit over 100,000 square miles of territory, at the close of a warm day, after traveling twenty miles, he entered the house of a settler in Allen county, Indiana, and was, as usual, warmly welcomed. He declined to eat with the family, but accepted some bread and milk, which he partook of sitting on the door-step and gazing on the setting sun. Later in the evening he delivered his 'news right fresh from heaven' by reading the Beatitudes. Declining other accommodation, he slept, as usual, on the floor, and in the early morning he was found with his features all aglow with a supernal light, and his body so near death that his tongue refused its office. The physician, who was hastily summoned, pronounced him dying, but added that he had never seen a man in so placid a state

at the approach of death. At seventy-two years of age, forty-six of which had been devoted to his self-imposed mission, he ripened into death as naturally and as beautifully as the seeds of his own planting had grown into fibre and bud and blossom and the matured fruit.

“Thus died one of the memorable men of pioneer times, who never inflicted pain or knew an enemy—a man of strange habits, in whom there dwelt a comprehensive love that reached with one hand downward to the lowest forms of life, and with the other upward to the very throne of God. A laboring, self-denying benefactor of his race, homeless, solitary and ragged, he trod the thorny earth with bare and bleeding feet, intent only on making the wilderness fruitful. Now, ‘no man knoweth of his sepulchre,’ but his deeds will live in the fragrance of the apple blossoms he loved so well, and the story of his life, however crudely narrated, will be a perpetual proof that true heroism, pure benevolence, noble virtues and deeds that deserve immortality may be found under meanest apparel and far from gilded halls and towering spires.”

Chapman never married and rumor said that an unhappy love affair was the cause of his living the life of a celibate and recluse. He died at the home of William Worth, in St. Joseph township, Allen county, Indiana, March 11, 1847, he then being seventy-two years of age, and is buried in the Archer graveyard a few miles north of the city of Ft. Wayne. As has been pointed out in one of the Ohio State Historical Society's publications, “the most cursory knowledge of the life and belief of ‘Johnny Appleseed’ is convincing as to his innate tenderness of heart and simplicity of faith. He loved nature in all her forms with passionate devotion. It is everywhere to be inferred that in spite of the grotesque apparel, unnatural manner of living and crude method of dealing, he was nevertheless greatly respected by all who came into contact with him. He was a benefactor of his race. He served his day and generation to the best of his ability and oppor-

tunity. No man could do better." As Lydia Maria Child's poem, "Appleseed John," has it:

So he kept traveling far and wide
Till his old limbs failed him and he died.
He said at last: "'Tis a comfort to feel
I've done some good in the world, though not a great deal."

Weary travelers journeying West,
In the shade of his trees find pleasant rest.
And often they start with glad surprise
At the rosy fruit that around them lies.

And if they inquire whence came such trees,
Where not a bough once swayed in the breeze,
The reply still comes, as they travel on,
"These trees were planted by Appleseed John."

THE IMMORTAL J. N.

To that generation of newspaper men in the Middle West now fast passing off the face of the earth mention of the name of the "Immortal J. N." will recall associations of other days in a very vivid fashion. The Immortal J. N., who died about twenty years ago, was an Ohioan by birth and rearing but a sort of a citizen of the world by choice and inclination, whose wanderings began, like those of "Johnny Appleseed," in the days of his young manhood and continued until the time of his death when an old, broken man about 1901. There are several traditions concerning the motive behind the wanderings of J. N., but whatever started him going his harmless and self-imposed mission in life after he got going was to "remove the pressure and lift the veil"—whatever that process might be, for in his rambling and most often incoherent utterances on the subject poor old J. N. never seemed able to bring his topic to a satisfactory conclusion and his audiences thus were left in doubt as to his mission in life. J. N. Free, for Free was his name, though to the world he preferred to be known as the Immortal J. N., was a man of somewhat imposing appearance, tall and straight, and in his old age his

flowing white hair and mustache were sufficient to attract the attention of strangers passing him on the streets.

Though not in any sense a member of that tribe of itinerants contemporary with his wanderings known as pilgrim printers, J. N.'s first calling place upon reaching town would be the newspaper office, where he would scribble an "item" of news announcing his arrival and setting out that he would address the populace at a certain hour and place, the latter preferably being the steps of the court house, if in a county-seat town, upon the all-important subject of lifting the veil and removing the pressure. It is not now recalled that this mysterious pressure was bearing down more immediately upon the body politic than upon things in general, for J. N. never was able to make himself clear on his self-absorbing topic. Often his appearance in a town would be preceded by a postal card addressed simply to "The Intelligent ———," the dash standing for the name of the editor of the paper and the expressive "intelligent" designed to differentiate the addressee from all others, divers or singular, of such name in the town; and, interesting to record, the postoffice chaps invariably got the card delivered to the person for whom it was intended. On this card J. N. would make announcement of his pending arrival and presently would follow his card by dropping in as per announcement.

Unlike the ordinary vagrant or harmless itinerant, the Immortal J. N. always was supplied with money for his needs and he never was a "pan-handler." Through some mysterious influence, variously though never wholly satisfactorily explained, he also for many years was kept supplied with annual passes over most of the railways running through the Midwest country and thus he always rode in state instead of following the humble path of the ordinary wayfarer. He would stop at first class hotels and in many of them would receive free accommodations. If pressed for pay for his lodging, he would adroitly lead the proprietor to an admission that he would throw off half the charge in consideration of the guests distinguished services and accomplishments, where-

upon old J. N. would draw himself up proudly and with an air of great dignity exclaim: "Very well, sir; I will allow no one to exceed me in courtesy—I will throw off the other half," and with that would bow himself out, his bill, as usual, unpaid. J. N. was of good family and often would be importuned by his kinsfolk to cease his fruitless wanderings, but the wanderlust was on him and he kept going until within a few months of his death, his last days being spent in the pleasant home of a niece in Ohio—the "veil" still obscurant and the "pressure" still persisting, his mission unaccomplished.

J. N. was for many years well known in the newspaper offices of this section of Ohio and in the files of the local newspapers kept in the Auglaize county court house there are numerous references to his visits to Wapakoneta, one of the earliest of these references being carried in the *Democrat* of July 6, 1865, where, under the heading "J. N. in the Dungeon Cell," it is set out that "the ancient world was full of immortal spirits—orators, statesmen, poets, philosophers, martyrs, but it remained for the present day (in the person of J. N. Free, once an obscure gentleman) to cast 'the blackness of darkness' over all that was past and all that was to come, whether in the world of poetry, philosophy, oratory or any of the other learned sciences. This great man favored Wapakoneta with a visit on Monday last and at his own request was conducted by Sheriff Mouch to the darkest dungeon of our prison, where he was chained and handcuffed—being the eighteenth time he has martyred himself for the cause he advocates. J. N. remained in prison until 6 o'clock in the evening, when he came forth and addressed the people. Standing a willing martyr for his cause—assuming the pressure for all the profound truths enunciated—the fertile products of his master mind—J. N. symbolized the many conflicting views of his appreciative auditory and by the mighty power of his persuasive eloquence brought about a reconciliation to his own illustrious views."

In the above there is something so distinctly reminiscent of the style and character of the rambling and incoherent scribblings that J. N. was wont to contribute to the newspapers during the time of his wanderings, that it is not at all unlikely (indeed, the presumption is quite in favor of it) the story was written by the Immortal J. N. himself and that the editor of the *Democrat* complaisantly "ran" it just as written. It at least is an interesting reminiscence of a quaint somewhat mysterious and not altogether unloveable character that once was known wherever newspapers were printed throughout the Middle West.

"BUCKEYE" AS THE SOBRIQUET FOR OHIO AND OHIOANS.

It may be interesting to many of the younger generation to know how the prideful sobriquet "Buckeye" came to be applied to Ohioans. In an interesting brochure on this subject written by Capt. William M. Farrar, of Ohio, in 1888, it is pointed out that the buckeye was much prized by the Indians, from whose rude language comes its name, "Hetuck," meaning the eye of the buck, because of the striking resemblance in color and shape between the brown nut and the eye of that animal. It then is set out that among the spectators who witnessed the ceremony of the opening of the first court in the Northwest Territory at Marietta on September 2, 1788, and were deeply impressed by its solemnity and seeming significance was a large body of Indians collected from some of the most powerful tribes of the northwest. Always fond of ceremony among themselves they witnessed the parade with the greatest interest and were especially impressed with the high sheriff (Col. Ebenezer Sproat) who led the procession with drawn sword. His fine physical proportions and dignified bearing excited their highest admiration, which they expressed by the word "Hetuck" (big buckeye), not spoken in derision but as an expression of their admiration. This term afterward was often jocularly applied to Colonel Sproat and became a sort of a nickname by which he was familiarly

known among his associates. This was certainly the first known application of this term to an individual, but there is no evidence that the name continued to be so used and applied from that time forward, or that it became a fixed and accepted sobriquet of the state and people until more than half a century afterward, when in the crucible of what is known as the "bitterest, longest and most extraordinary political contest ever waged in the United States" the name Buckeye became forever fixed as the sobriquet of the state of Ohio and of its people.

In 1840 when Gen. William Henry Harrison became the candidate of his party for President an opposition newspaper said that "he was better fitted to sit in a log cabin and drink hard cider than rule in the White House." This precipitated the memorable "log cabin" campaign of that year. In Ohio, Harrison's state, political fervor never was at greater heat. When the convention for the nomination of a candidate for Governor was held at Columbus delegations from all parts of the state were present and among the numerous curious devices resorted to to give expression to the ideas embodied in the campaign there appeared in the procession a veritable log cabin, built of buckeye logs, from Clark county, mounted on a wagon and drawn through the streets, the crew accompanying this exhibit singing lustily:

Oh where, tell me where,
Was your buckeye cabin made?

'Twas built among the merry boys
Who wield the plow and spade;
Where the log cabins stand,
In the bonnie buckeye shade.

Oh what, tell me what,
Is to be your cabin's fate?

We'll wheel it to the capital
And place it there elate,
For a token and a sign
Of the bonnie Buckeye State.

From that time forward the buckeye became an important factor in the canvass and buckeye cabins were multiplied and drawn in processions at all the leading meetings, while the name was applied to General Harrison, as—

Hurrah for the father of the Great West,
For the Buckeye who follows the plow.

The name was also applied to Mr. Corwin, the candidate for Governor, as—

Tom Corwin is a Buckeye boy,
Who stands not for the pay.

And generally, as—

Come all ye jolly Buckeye boys,
And listen to my song.

See what a host of lumber
And buckeye poles are here—
And Buckeye boys without number,
Aloft the logs to rear.

The buckeye thus not only was woven into song and sung and shouted from every log cabin, but it became a popular emblem of the party and an article of commerce, more especially along the old National road, over which the public travel of the country was carried in that day of stage coaches, and men and boys worked up a considerable traffic by going into the woods in the morning and returning carrying great bundles of buckeye sticks to be converted into canes and sold to travelers or sent to adjoining states to be used for campaign purposes. When the long and heated canvass finally closed with a sweeping victory the crystallization was complete, and the name "Buckeye" was irrevocably fixed upon the state and the people of Ohio and continues to the present day, one of the most popular and familiar sobriquets in use.

GEN. AUGUST WILlich.

To many still living in Auglaize county the memory of Gen. August Willich is one of the most precious ties connecting the present with the past. Concerning this "grand old man" perhaps no finer tribute here could be paid than that carried in Henry Howe's "Historical Collections," where it is set out that St. Marys will long be memorable as the last home and final resting place of that old hero, August Willich. On his monument here is this extraordinary record: "Born Novbr. 19, 1810, in Braunsberg, Prussia; died Jan. 22, 1878, at St. Marys, Ohio. Comdg. Army of the Revolution in Germany, 1849; private 9th Reg. O. V. I., April 22, 1861; Col. 32d Regt. Ind. Vol. Inf., Aug. 25, 1861; Brig. Gen. U. S. Vol., July 17, 1862; Bvt. Maj. Gen. U. S. Vol., Octbr. 21, 1865." A friend at St. Marys who loved him as a brother thus outlines for these pages the story of his heroic and noble life:

Gen. August Willich was born in Braunsberg, Prussia, November 19, 1810. When twelve years of age he was appointed a cadet at the military school in Potsdam and three years later he entered the military academy at Berlin, whence in 1828 he was commissioned a lieutenant and assigned to the artillery. Democratic sentiments were prevalent among the officers of this corps and many were assigned to other commands. Willich, then a captain, was sent to Ft. Kolberg in 1846; he resigned his commission, which a year later was accepted. Thereafter he became a conspicuous leader of the revolutionary and working classes, assuming the trade and garb of a carpenter. In March, 1848, he commanded the popular assault and capture of the town hall in Cologne; a month later a republic was declared in Baden and Willich was tendered the command of all the revolutionary forces; on April 20, 1848, this force was attacked by an overwhelming force of the government troops, defeating and scattering them. Willich, with over a thousand of his followers, sought and found refuge in the young and hospitable Republic of

France. The next year, 1849, Willich again crossed the boundary and besieged the fortress of Landau until it was relieved by an army under the Prince of Prussia, now (1888) Emperor of Germany. After several other exploits all revolutionary forces were defeated and on July 11 the last column under Willich crossed the border into Switzerland. Crossing France on his way to England, Willich was arrested at Lyons by order of the then President, Louis Napoleon, to be surrendered to Prussia, but was released in consequence of public demonstrations in his favor.

In 1853 Willich came to the United States and found employment on the coast survey from Hilton Head to South Carolina, under Captain Moffitt, later commander of the rebel cruiser Florida. In 1858 he was called to Cincinnati to assume the editorial chair of the *German Republican*, the organ of the workingmen. On the breaking out of the war he joined the 9th regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and as a private, adjutant and major organized and drilled it. After the battle of Rich Mountain he was commissioned a colonel by Governor Morton of Indiana and organized the 32d regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with which he entered the field and participated in the battle of Mumfordsville, Ky., December 16, 1861. A few days later occurred the brilliant fight of the regiment with the Texas Rangers at Green river under Colonel Terry, who was killed and his forces totally routed. General Willich's history thereafter is part of the history of the Army of the Cumberland. His memorable exploit at Shiloh was followed by a commission as brigadier general. At Stone River, by the unfortunate fall of his horse, he was taken prisoner. At the battle of Chickamauga he held the right of Thomas's line and with his brigade covered the rear of our forces on its retreat to Rossville. At Missionary Ridge his brigade was among the first to storm the rebel works, resulting in the rout of the enemy. His career in the Atlanta campaign was cut short by a serious wound in the shoulder, received at Resaca, Ga. He then was placed in command of the post at Cincinnati until March, 1865, when

he assumed command of his brigade and accompanied it to Texas, until its return and his muster out as brevet major general.

In 1867 General Willich was elected auditor of Hamilton county. Upon the expiration of his term in 1869 he revisited Germany and again took up the studies of his youth (philosophy) at the University of Berlin. His request to enter the army in the French-German war of 1870 was not granted and he returned to his adopted country, making his home at St. Marys, Ohio, with his old friend, Major Charles Hipp, and many other pleasant and congenial friends. In those few years General Willich was a prominent figure in all social circles, hailed by every child in town, and died on January 22, 1878, from paralysis of the heart, followed to his grave in the beautiful Elmwood cemetery by three companies of State militia, delegations from the 9th Ohio and 32d Indiana volunteers, the children of the schools and a vast concourse of sorrowing friends.

In his "Ohio in the War," Whitelaw Reid gives Willich extraordinary commendation. He says: "In the opening of Rosecrans' campaign against Bragg in 1863, General Willich took Liberty Gap with his brigade, supported by two regiments from another command. Rosecrans characterizes this as the finest fighting he witnessed in the war. The maneuvering of the brigade was by bugle signals and the precision of the movements was equal to a parade." General Willich's services at Chickamauga under the direction of Thomas were gallant in the extreme. He was finally left to cover the retreat and maintained his position until the whole army arrived safely at Chattanooga. But it was at the battle of Mission Ridge especially that his military career was crowned with one of the grandest feats of the war. Says Reid: "In the action on the third day, when Sherman had made his unsuccessful charges and Grant gave his well known order for the center to take the enemy's works at the foot of the ridge and stay there, Willich's and Hazen's brigades were in the front with Sheridan's and other divisions in *echelon* to

the rear. The whole line moved in double quick through woods and fields and carried the works—Willich's brigade going up under the concentrated fire of batteries at a point where two roads met. At this point General Willich said that he saw to obey General Grant's order and remain at the works at the foot of the Ridge would mean the destruction of the center. To fall back would have been the loss of the battle, with the sacrifice of Sherman. In this emergency, with no time for consultation with the division general or any other commander, he sent three of his aides to different regiments and rode himself to the 8th Kansas and gave the order to storm the top of the Ridge. How brilliantly the order was executed the whole world knows."

AN AUGLAIZE COUNTY WORLD WAR HERO.

Auglaize county furnished one very conspicuous figure in the World war, the story of which is very well told in the following terse little item in *The Auglaize Republican* of November 21, 1918, which under the heading "Wapakoneta Man Leads Way to Germany" sets out that "a former Wapakoneta man in the person of Gen. Joseph T. Dickman gave the word of command which started the American army on the way to the Rhine Monday. General Dickman is in command of the Third Army—the army of occupation. He is a son of the late Theo Dickman, a native of Germany, and was born at Dayton, spent his boyhood at Minster and was educated in the Wapakoneta high school, afterward going to West Point. His prominence does not come as a matter of luck. He was early recognized as a young man of unusual ability and his career in the army has been one of exceptional merit. Lately he has been one of the generals who succeeded in hammering the German army into retreat along the Marne and the Meuse. The fact that the commander of the occupied region of Germany is the son of a German immigrant may awaken the people of the Fatherland to the beauties of a republican form of government."

Along this same line, an editorial in the *Republican* in 1889, during a period of "strained diplomatic relations" between this country and Germany, puts the case thus: "We have heard the question asked several times of late if German-Americans would be loyal to their adopted country in case of war with Germany. Of course, no one who is familiar with the history of the Germans in this country from the time of the Revolutionary war, when Baron von Steuben rendered Washington such valuable assistance, down to the present time, would ask such a question. It is best answered by referring to their past record, which shows them to have been in the front rank in every step taken to improve the country or defend the Union. It is the most natural thing in the world that they should love the land of their birth. No serious trouble is likely to occur between Germany and the United States, but if there ever should be a conflict every German-American very properly would deem it an insult to doubt his loyalty. They will sing with reference to the United States:

" 'Lieb Vaterland magst ruhig sein,
Kein Bismarck kann hier Herrschen sein'."

As one of the Lima newspapers said in commenting on the fact that young Dickman had taken his examination for West Point in that city in 1877, "It seems fitting that the son of ancestors who left the Teuton fatherland because of the tyranny there, should lead the hosts of freedom into the land wrecked by a brutal and misguided autocracy." It is a matter of further local interest to note that Capt. Robert McMurray, then mayor of Wapakoneta and editor of the *Democrat*, prompted young Dickman to try for West Point and that Prof. C. W. Williamson, who so often has been mentioned in these pages, was a member of the examining board which passed upon his qualifications for admission to the military academy.

General Dickman, who was retired on October 6, 1921, upon reaching the age of sixty-four years, and who is now the presiding officer of the general staff's "plucking board,"

has had much military experience. Prior to the World war he participated in two campaigns in the Philippine insurrection and was chief of staff of the relief expedition to Peking at the time of the Boxer insurrection in China. During the World war General Dickman commanded the Third division in the Aisne offensive, in the Chateau Thierry sector, in the Champagne-Marne defensive and in the Aisne-Marne offensive; commanded the Fourth army corps in the St. Mihiel offensive; commanded the First army corps in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, and finally exercised the command of lieutenant general in commanding the Third army in the occupation of Germany. He was awarded the distinguished service medal for his service with the American expeditionary forces.

A HISTORICAL INCIDENT OF LOCAL IMPORTANCE.

Naturally, in a county such as this, peopled as it is by such a large proportion of persons of German ancestry, there were many young men of immediate German stock who went into the army. There is no gainsaying that they did their duty, according to their various stations, as loyally and as determinedly as did General Dickman. The latter simply occupied a conspicuous position and his name came into prominence not only in his old home county but throughout the world. All were equally patriotic and loyal. Along this very line, and commenting on the visit of a United States agent to Wapakoneta shortly after the declaration of war against Germany in April, 1917, for the purpose of investigating what was said to have been "a number of disloyal expressions by persons who sympathized with Germany," the *Republican* for April 19, reported that the agent "appeared to be satisfied that all was well in Wapakoneta, and he will so report to the department." The newspaper then continued: "It is surprising that any one should question the loyalty of the people of Wapakoneta and vicinity. While it is true that there were many partisans of Germany prior to the declaration of war, this was considered only a natural condition owing to the large

number of persons of German birth residing here. Since the war declaration the sentiment has been all for the United States." It hardly could have been otherwise, when it is considered that the world was in arms against the very thing which two or three generations before had driven the grandfathers or the great-grandfathers of these boys to the shores of this country to find the liberty that was denied them at home. A review of the settlement period of this county reveals that the great part of those elements of the basic population of the county made up of persons of German birth or stock came in here following the consummation of the great colonization movements attending the extensive German immigration to America during the early '30s and during the later period of similar emigration in the late '40s and early '50s of the past century.

In this connection, a word concerning political conditions in Germany and throughout central Europe generally about that time may be regarded as timely, as marking a historical period of great importance in Auglaize county. In 1832 there arose in the Palitanate and through the southern section of Germany a somewhat famous commotion among the peasantry, by which a demand was made of the then ruling authorities for a larger measure of liberty for the people. It was doubtless a preliminary symptom of the greater commotion that occurred sixteen years later, in 1848, and which led to an actual and somewhat remarkable outbreak, but which was crushed with a relentless hand and which furnished the inspiring cause for the great immigration movement of that period, this latter movement having been participated in by some of the strongest minds and figures in the political life of the period in Germany, these including Carl Schurz, Gen. Franz Sigel and many others of this sturdy and independent type, not the least of whom was Gen. August Willich, of excellent local memory, whose last days were spent at St. Marys, in this county, and of whom further and fitting mention is made in the preceding pages.

The revolt of 1832 was led by two of the professors and many of the students of Heidelberg University and had an immense popular following, the movement coming to a culmination at a popular gathering assembled at Homburg auf der Hohe, since then a noted watering place. At this gathering eloquent speeches were made in favor of popular rights and the government was denounced in scathing terms. As a result the offending professors were arrested and thrown into prison. The threatened revolt was thus summarily and for the time effectively nipped in the bud. Thousands fully sympathized with the spirit of the occasion, being animated by a desire for a larger measure of liberty, which actuated the German masses at that time and which the gathering in question represented, and were thus overwhelmed with disappointment when the leaders of the movement were imprisoned and when the hopes that had inspired their countrymen were thus suppressed. The result was that thousands lost hope of ever seeing a better day in Germany. Naturally, they instinctively turned their thoughts toward the New World and to the then recently established American Republic, and it was thus that the emigration of 1832-3 was started. Thousands came over. Most of these upon becoming established here influenced friends and kinsfolk in the old country to join them here. After the unsuccessful revolution of 1848 there was a similar exodus. Auglaize county gained many of these new citizens, in some communities of the county this sturdy, independent, liberty loving stock having formed the basic element of the local population, as will be noted by a perusal of the names of the original land holders of this county as set out elsewhere in this work.

While formerly and for many years, and even to some extent today in certain communities in this county, some of the folk customs of the mother country were kept up and observance of the traditions of the Fatherland maintained, there ever was in this observance a careful recognition of the basic customs and traditions of their adopted country, and while on occasion the flag of Germany would be unfurled to

the breeze in celebration of some anniversary dear to the hearts of those observing the day, this appearance of the flag of their old country was only tributary to the appearance of the flag of their new country—the two flying side by side. The Fourth of July—significant date in the history of liberty loving people the world over—was celebrated by none more enthusiastically than by the newcomers, whose children and children's children thus were taught the great story of that day. Simply as a sidelight on this practice, the following item of news from the columns of the *Wapakoneta Republican* of July 9, 1885, may prove interesting to the readers of another generation: "The Swabischer Unterstuetzung's Verein gave a Fourth of July celebration at Walters Grove. Before repairing to the grove they made a very creditable parade headed by the German band, one of the interesting features of which was a wagon filled with some of Wapakoneta's fairest daughters dressed to represent the fair damsels of south Germany. The wagon was gaily trimmed with United States and German flags and with flowers and branches of trees."

Though the teaching of German in the public schools of Ohio formerly and long was a pretty general part of the curriculum, of recent years it has been pretty generally abandoned. It is thus interesting to note that in the continued teaching of this language Auglaize county takes the lead. A newspaper item in the spring of 1922 follows: "That Auglaize county heads the list of all counties in the state of Ohio in the number of pupils enrolled in public schools who are studying the German language is shown in the report of the state school superintendent. It shows that out of 224 students in Ohio studying the language, 101 are in Auglaize county. The only other counties which have German in the schools at all are Mercer, Allen and Putnam. County Superintendent Drummond said that he believed there were about seventy boys and girls in the county who are taking the language at the present time. These are in the Minster, New Bremen and New Knoxville schools. At New Bremen, 'tis said, the de-

mand for the teaching of German in the high school is almost nil, and it is probable that the language may be dropped from the curriculum there."

As a closing thought in this connection the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* in the summer of 1922, commenting on the promotion of Carl T. Vogelgesang to the rank of rear admiral of the United States navy, said that "it would be difficult to imagine a more thoroughly Teutonic name than that of Admiral Vogelgesang. As a matter of fact, he is a native of California, but had he been born in Bavaria or Prussia or Meckelburg it would be a matter of no moment. Throughout the World war countless officers and men of German birth and German descent proved themselves among the most loyal and efficient fighters for the American cause. The elevation of Carl T. Vogelgesang to the rank of rear admiral is a sufficient refutation of the charge of our professional pro-Germans that America harbors unjust animosities against all men of German blood. It is not against German blood or German birth that Americans protest, but against the 'hyphen.' The German-American now, as before and during America's participation in the war, is an American for convenience and a German by choice, by conviction and by sympathy. Admiral Vogelgesang is not a German-American. He is all American, and the accident of German ancestry and a heavily German name has not proved a handicap to his patriotic service or to his merited advancement."

ROBBERY OF THE AUGLAIZE COUNTY TREASURY.

Mention previously has been made of the embezzlements of two county treasurers, the first instance of such abuse of public confidence having occurred in 1877 and the second in 1887—these incidents having created what still are recalled as the greatest sensations ever noted in the civic life of Auglaize county. In his accounts of these incidents, the late Prof. C. W. Williamson, whose review of earlier conditions in Auglaize county has so often and deservedly been quoted in

this work, observed that "it may seem to the general reader that an undue amount of attention has been given to the two robberies. The writer feels that the interest taken in them at the time they were committed, and since then, warrants the notice given them in this connection." That the present generation may be informed concerning these matters of such engrossing interest, Professor Williamson's account of the two cases of defalcation is here reproduced, the same starting with the observation that "from 1848 to 1877 there was no event worthy of note to disturb the public mind with regard to the efficiency and honesty of the public officials of the county until the morning of the 7th of September, 1877, when the citizens of Wapakoneta were startled with the announcement that the county treasury (Lewis Myers then having been treasurer) had been robbed. Immediately following the discovery of the robbery the following editorial, from the pen of Attorney George W. Andrews, appeared in the *Auglaize County Democrat*:

" 'In an interview, Myers reports that on the evening of September 6th, at 10 o'clock, as he was passing a dark alley near his house a blanket was thrown over his head and that he was carried back along the alley to the river bank, where he was kept about an hour, and then carried across lots to the court house, which was opened by the men having him in charge, by some mysterious means. When in the hall he was, with revolvers pressed to his head, commanded to open the doors of the safe. With hopes of relief by delay, he denied having the keys; but the fiends had planned their devilment with too much certainty to be baffled—they knew he had the means of getting to the money, and so he was forced to the work. The masked villains whispered with forked-lightning words: "Open the safe." Summoning his departing strength, he denied his knowledge of the combination to enable him to open the doors, but the answer came hissing in his ears: "We know you took money from the safe without help this afternoon." As he stubbornly refused, they tied his hands behind him, made a fire on the stone floor under his

legs, and as the flames burned through the clothing on his extremities, they pressed revolvers to his temples and told him: "Open the safe, or you live but a little while longer."

"In this moment of supreme horror, in the inner court of an improvised hell, Lewis Myers, whose unblemished name for a quarter of a century was unchangeably the synonym of integrity, did what probably every man in the county would have done—he opened the safe, and the three ambassadors from Tophet took the county's money and bore it boldly away to make returns thereof to their master in hell. Certainly so, for of their approach and departure they left no material sign. We spoke of three; the fourth demon remained for two hours, a hellish specter keeping watch with cocked revolver pointed near the head of Myers as he sat bound to a chair, with a gag in his mouth and his arms pinioned behind him and the chair lashed to the stove in the office. And then, like a weird fiend, as he was, he vanished to take his place in Satan's convocation.'

"On the 7th, the day following the robbery, a meeting of the county commissioners was held and a reward of \$1,000 was offered for the arrest and conviction of the robbers. As a result of the offered reward, a number of detectives appeared and were soon engaged in investigations that ended in barren results. The excitement and distrust of the people were intensified to such a degree that some of the detectives were taken before the municipal authorities and required to show their credentials. John T. Norris, of Springfield, Ohio, the only successful one of the number, secreted himself under Myers's house at night to note any movement of the family that he might consider suspicious, and to overhear any conversation that might occur in the room above him. After remaining in his place of concealment for a time, the family above retired for the night. When everything became quiet the detective threw open the door of his dark lantern and proceeded toward the aperture through which he had entered. When near the point of exit he found a portion of a broom handle, from which a part had been cut off. This

relic he carried away with him. Upon comparing it the next day with the gag reported to have been used upon Myers, the evidence was considered sufficient to warrant his arrest. A warrant was accordingly issued and he was placed under arrest. A week later James F. Smith, the county auditor, was arrested on a charge of being an accomplice in the robbery and was confined in the county jail to await the meeting of the grand jury.

"Theodore Dickman had been elected the previous year to succeed Myers and was present at the time specified by statute to take charge of the office. Myers and the auditor asked the commissioners for a delay from day to day to enable them to compare and correct the books. The delay continued until the morning of the 7th when the robbery was reported. The commissioners took charge of the office on the morning of the 7th and proceeded to investigate the condition of the treasury. The examination revealed a deficit of \$27,155.59. At the conclusion of the investigation Mr. Dickman, treasurer-elect, took charge of the office. Lewis Myers and James F. Smith were indicted at the October term of court. When arraigned in court Myers pleaded guilty as charged in the indictment and was sentenced to three years of imprisonment in the penitentiary. James F. Smith pleaded 'not guilty' and after the third trial was acquitted.

"A meeting of the county commissioners was held immediately after the conviction of Myers, to consider the proper steps to be taken in the collection of the money embezzled. After due deliberation each of the bondsmen was given the privilege of paying his liability on the bond in three equal annual payments. After much agitation by the bondsmen and their friends, in the months that followed, the propriety of relieving them of their liability on the bond was submitted to a vote of the people at the April election in 1880. Unexpectedly to the advocates of the measure, it was defeated by a majority of over 1,700 votes."

It is but proper to recall here, in the interest of historical accuracy, that there was an abiding conviction in the minds

of many persons that a shortage existed in the county treasury prior to the time Mr. Myers took over the office, and they freely gave expression to their opinion. Mr. Myers was elected county treasurer while a resident of St. Johns, where he was engaged in business, and he enjoyed the respect and the confidence of the people of St. Johns and the entire community.

In this same connection the minority (Republican) newspaper, the *Wapakoneta Bee*, at that time published by the Holbrooks, carried a story of the cleaning out of the county treasury which gives an interesting account of that incident from a somewhat different angle. In its issue of September 22, 1877, the *Bee* had the following:

"Myers made a clean breast of it this afternoon. This is how it came about. He waived examination at the preliminary hearing yesterday, thereby creating a feeling of distrust on the part of his recognizers and they refused to go his bond for his appearance at court. He therefore could not find men willing to assume the obligation, which was fixed at \$25,000, and was committed to jail.

"In the treasury examination Myers swore that he had never loaned a cent to the several parties about whom he was questioned, but upon examining them they testified quite differently. J. F. Mesloh, the county representative, testified under oath that he borrowed about \$2,000 from Myers at different times during his term of office. He said, however, that he borrowed it without suspecting it was county money and paid it all back except \$431.50.

"M. Mouch testified that he borrowed \$5,000 from the treasurer the day after he took possession and \$1,500 several weeks afterward. Mouch knew it came from the treasury, but has paid the amount except about \$2,000. Twelve or thirteen thousand thus loaned has been traced to prominent Democrats of the county, but they have not yet been brought before the examiner.

"This afternoon Detective Norris and seven of the bondsmen went to the jail to persuade Myers to make a confession.

His sons also pressed him to tell all. When told of the testimony of the men he had favored he weakened and told the story of his fall, which we will give briefly and for what it is worth. One day about eighteen months ago he was in his office with the auditor, J. F. Smith. He had occasion to go for a moment and when he returned a package of \$7,000 was missing from the safe, which he had left open. Myers—with a simplicity that seems incredible—said little to Smith about the matter and never revealed the loss to anyone except his son Lawrence. Smith said he would never cover it up for him, and it was planned between them to rob the treasury over nine months ago, but Myers could never screw his courage up to the sticking point until the last hour. Had they executed the plan in August a haul of about \$70,000 would have been secured. The treasurer had made up his mind to be a defaulter without robbing the treasury, but the auditor would not let him. No one helped him rob the safe on the night of the festival except J. F. Smith. He did not intend to 'peach' but when he became convinced that the ring intended to make a scapegoat out of him his intention changed. Mesloh still owed over \$1,400 of the treasury's money and Myers had burned his note for \$1,000 for fear it might be discovered. This places Mesloh in an ugly position and he will probably be indicted for perjury as well as for conspiring to rob the treasury.

"On the strength of Myers's confession and other strong circumstances of guilt, a warrant for the arrest of Smith was put in the hands of Norris. Smith was attending a Democratic rally at Lima and Norris went after him in a buggy, bringing him here at 8:30 p. m. Great excitement prevailed in the town and among the incensed Germans there was talk of lynching the prisoner. Threats of violence were also made against his obstreperous attorney, W. V. M. Layton. Smith was lodged in jail and will be arraigned in the morning, but he will inevitably be unable to give bail. Minnie Strip, the woman in the case, has also been arrested and put in jail. Minnie has been Smith's mistress for years and it is thought

that she has played no insignificant part in the robbery, as he has squandered thousands of dollars annually upon her. This feature adds to the terrible severity of the blow to his wife and family.

“About twelve or fourteen thousand dollars were taken from the safe on the night of the robbery, the rest of the deficiency having been loaned out long before. Myers says Smith took the money and that he (Myers) has not got a cent of it. The auditor’s house was searched tonight and the sum of \$1,795 was found under the carpet. A guard was placed around Minnie Strip’s house and it will be searched in the morning.

“The ex-parte treasury examination will go on until every man who is suspected of having borrowed money from the treasury is hunted down. In relation to this matter, the next grand jury will doubtless have several *prima facie* cases of perjury to consider. The county commissioners will meet tomorrow (Thursday) and take the action required in view of the recent disclosures. Fin Smith will be removed from office and some suitable person will be appointed as auditor for the remainder of the term, which expires on the 1st of next November.”

The Williamson narrative continues: “Ten years later, August 29, 1887, the citizens of Auglaize county were again startled by the report that Israel Lucas, county treasurer, was an embezzler of the county’s money to the amount of \$31,643.94. On Saturday, the 27th, he left the office in charge of his nephew, Gemmi Lucas, saying that he and his wife would spend Sunday in Toledo visiting friends and would return on Monday. He did not return on Monday. On Tuesday the deputy became suspicious that something was wrong and consulted his father, Middleton Lucas, concerning the situation of affairs. In the evening of the same day the commissioners were called in and an examination was made of the contents of the safe, when it was discovered that a robbery had been committed, amounting to \$31,643.94. Instead of

stopping at Toledo, Lucas and his wife went to Detroit and crossed the river, from which point they went to Toronto.

"The excitement in the county following the departure of Lucas was even greater than it was ten years before. The public feeling was greatly intensified when it became known that a number of sureties on his bond had also been bondsmen for Lewis Myers. On the 2d of September the commissioners declared the office vacant and tendered the position to a citizen of St. Marys, who, for certain reasons, declined to accept it. Two other citizens of known integrity were solicited to accept the office before a man was found who had the courage to take charge of the trust. C. C. Pepple, of Wayne township, was prevailed upon to accept the appointment. He served the county faithfully and efficiently for three years.

"No trace of the absconding treasurer was discovered until in the following February, when he was located in Toronto by A. Borquin, of New Bremen. With the assistance of Toronto detectives he arrested Lucas and his wife on the charge of bringing stolen money into Canada. Prior to the arrest Detective Borquin had telegraphed to the prosecuting attorney and sheriff of Auglaize county, asking for directions of procedure in making the arrest. A reply was sent, ordering the immediate arrest of Lucas and his wife. A few hours later, C. A. Layton, prosecuting attorney; William Schulenberg, sheriff; George VanOss and Henry Koop, commissioners, and Charles Huebner, J. Romshe and Christian Heisler, bondsmen, departed from Wapakoneta for Toronto, arriving there on the morning of the 12th. A preliminary hearing was set for Tuesday, at which time Layton, on pretense of wanting time to secure evidence for extraditing the prisoners, secured the postponement of the trial until Friday. At this stage of the proceedings Layton consulted the attorney for the Crown and the two went to work systematically to frighten Lucas by causing him to believe that irregularities had been discovered in the books at Wapakoneta on which a charge of forgery could be made and thereby secure his extradition.

“The prosecutors were assisted very much by the press of Toronto in which the charge of forgery was reiterated from day to day until Lucas became alarmed. On Thursday evening he proposed to compromise. At first he proposed to return \$1,000, but was gradually worked up to \$12,000. On Friday the prosecutor and commissioners, in consideration of \$12,000 deposited by Lucas in a bank at Toronto, relinquished all civil demands upon him. Immediately following the agreement and payment of the money, Lucas and his wife were released. Of the \$12,000, \$605 were paid to the Crown attorney, detectives and for court expenses. Within a week from that time the Auglaize county treasury received a draft for \$11,394.44. In accordance with the reward of 25 per cent offered by the commissioners for the recovery of the whole or any part of the money embezzled, C. A. Layton received \$2,848.61.”

Concerning these cases, the *Republican* (November 3, 1887) said: “Several times of late we have heard it said that Israel Lucas did not steal the money, he took it. As to that, we confess our inability to figure out the difference. We do not know, either, how much of the swag Lucas got. He may have got it all, and he may not—in fact, the belief is growing that he did not take it all, but was relieved of a considerable amount of the missing money long before he skipped the country. When Myers was arrested it was supposed that he alone had gotten away with the money, but it was developed at his trial that he had only been made a tool of by the others. But poor Myers suffered the penalty while the real culprits escaped punishment. In Lucas’s case, however, we are satisfied he got away with a large portion of it.”

BASE BALL EVER A POPULAR GAME HERE.

Among outdoor sports base ball has ever been the favorite hereabout, each season for many years being marked by some form of organized effort along this line, ball teams both at Wapakoneta and at St. Marys as well as in the smaller towns of the county vieing with each other for supremacy on

the "diamond," even extending their activities into the adjacent counties, and many have been the spirited series of games played out in this region. This interest in the great national game has led to the production of several players who have achieved distinction as stars in the big leagues. Perhaps the most notable of these local figures in the base ball field is "Bob" Ewing, present (1922) sheriff of Auglaize county, who also is engaged in a business enterprise at Wapakoneta. Twenty years and more ago no name in base ball was better known than that of Bob Ewing, then famous pitcher for the Cincinnati "Reds." He grew up at New Hampshire in this county and from boyhood was interested in base ball, even in his youth developing a knack as a pitcher that gave promise of attracting attention. And it did. His first professional engagement was with the Toledo team of the old Interstate league, with which he began playing about 1896. He later became connected with the Kansas City team and in 1901 began pitching for the Cincinnati "Reds," an engagement which continued for eight years, at the end of which time he was transferred to the Philadelphia team, with which he remained for several years or until his retirement from professional ball. Ed Vananda, "Whitey" Guese and Harry Eichler are other players here who attained a more than local reputation. Miller Huggins, now manager of the New York team of the American League, "Lefty" Houtz and "Stub" Wentz also have played on the Wapakoneta team.

Back in the "good old days" base ball had its votaries no less enthusiastic and its practitioners no less earnest than now, and the newspaper files of the '70s and '80s carry many a good story of the games of that period. There was one game in the middle of July, 1875, that required a column in the *Democrat* to detail all its good points. This game was a contest between the business and professional men of Wapakoneta, who were divided into two teams determined along physical lines, the "Fats" and the "Leans," the latter of whom won by a score of 37 to 30. Following is the line-up: Leans—J. Leiter, F. Decker, B. Linzee, F. W. Fledderjohn,

W. Williams, F. Slessor, F. Smith, C. P. Davis, P. Stiles, W. V. M. Layton. Fats—P. Heintz, P. C. Blume, B. Shaffer, M. Steiner, B. Baker, A. P. South, F. E. Kolter, C. A. Layton, J. C. Baeumel and F. C. Vananda. It was during the '80s that there were maintained two stalwart base ball clubs at Wapakoneta, one representing the west side of the town and the other the east side and the rivalry between these two teams was such that spirited sport always could be looked for when they met to try conclusions on the diamond. Wonted friendships ceased when the teams reached the field and the struggle not infrequently was one "of blood" in the literal sense of the term, though it is not recalled that any actual fatalities ever occurred.

DESTRUCTIVE STORMS IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

There seems to be something about this county's situation on the great summit ridge attractive to storms of cyclonic fury and great destruction of property and on occasions loss of life has resulted from these storms, which invariably follow much the same path, beginning about at the Grand Reservoir in the vicinity of St. Marys and extending on east through the county, carrying a swath of ruin through St. Marys, Moulton, Duchouquet, Union, Wayne and Goshen townships. On Tuesday, June 27, 1922, one of these tornadoes started in just after noon west of St. Marys and by the time it had reached that town had attained sufficient velocity to unroof numerous buildings, create much damage at the paper mill and blow down many shade trees. Proceeding east it left a confusion of fallen trees and wire service poles along the highway to Wapakoneta and for a mile or more to the north orchards and insecure farm buildings suffered, while wheat ready for the harvest was flattened in the fields and the blades of the tender corn riddled. The Catholic church at Glynwood in Moulton township was unroofed and continuous damage was caused all along the path of the storm until it passed on out of the county in Wayne and Goshen townships.

The astonishing thing is that but a little more than two months before, on Monday, April 17, 1922, a storm of cyclonic dimensions had taken toll of destruction along pretty much the same course, though somewhat farther north, striking in in the vicinity of Buckland and proceeding east about along the Auglaize-Allen line, destroying a number of farm plants, much live stock, forest trees and orchards and taking tragic toll of life, one person being killed and several others seriously injured. A little less than two years before, about 8 o'clock on Sunday evening, March 28, 1920, a tornado of intense fury cut a pathway through the county, spreading death and destruction in its wake. This tornado entered the county a few miles west of New Bremen and traveled in a northeasterly direction, passing into Allen county a few miles east of Cridersville. In places it appeared to rise and only small damage was done, but in other places, notably at the village of Moulton and in the Two-Mile community north of Wapakoneta, it destroyed everything in its pathway. The path of the storm was at no point more than 300 yards wide and the core of the wind was hardly more than 200 yards wide. The little village of Moulton, half way between the cities of St. Marys and Wapakoneta, was the only populous community in the storm's pathway. The storm entered the village from the southwest, utterly destroying the dwellings of John Kachelries and Charles Katterheinrich, the old M. E. and United Brethren churches, and partially destroying the elevator, store rooms and sheds of the Detjen Grain Company. The dwelling of William Aufderhaar was moved from its foundation and badly damaged and in the homes of Joseph Schutz, just to the north, and Frank Norman windows were broken and furniture damaged. At the John Kachelries home when the storm broke were nine persons, including the members of the family and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Katterheinrich and daughter. This building was entirely swept away, nothing remaining except the foundation and a kitchen range. The furniture, boards and timber from the house were mingled with the wreckage of the Detjen elevator.

In its account of the destruction of the Kachelries home *The Auglaize Republican* said: "Mr. Kachelries heard the fearful warning of the approaching storm and went to the kitchen door to look out. Mrs. Kachelries had her four-year-old son, Lester, in her lap, but set the child down and she and the other persons in the room started for the kitchen. As Mr. Kachelries opened the door the house was lifted from its foundation and they were left groping in the darkness. The older people suffered some injuries but none of a serious character. As soon as they could, search was instituted for the two younger children, Melvin, aged six years, and Lester, aged four. The body of the older child was found a few hours later in a field a quarter of a mile east of the house, while the body of the younger child was not found until early the following morning when John Lynch discovered it in a pile of wreckage near the grain elevator. The body of the child was severed under the arms.

"The home of Charles Katterheinrich was just across the street from the Kachelries home and was swept completely away. The home of Gus Meckstroth, north of the Kachelries home, was badly damaged but not beyond repair. To the north of this home is Trinity Lutheran church, a handsome structure completed only a few years before. The pastor, Rev. George Schultz, was conducting services at the time, about sixty parishioners being present. As soon as the tornado struck the church the electric lights went out and the minister realized the danger they were in, and advised the people to leave the building. Mr. Schultz and the organist, Miss Minnie Seilschott, were the last to go out and it was a miracle that they escaped death, as brick and timbers were falling around them as they groped their way out in the darkness. Miss Seilschott suffered a fractured collar bone.

"The elevator was in the path of the greatest destruction and was left a tangled wreckage. Metal sheeting from the building was found afterward in the Henry Burk woods five miles away. The store room occupied by E. F. Seilschott, who conducted a general store, was badly damaged, the upper floor

being entirely destroyed. The third fatality occurred in front of this store, Henry Lechner, aged eighteen, son of J. J. Lechner, being caught beneath the wreckage. He lived but a few hours after being taken out by a rescuing party. The core of the storm also swept over the home and farm buildings of George Miller, tenanted by William Kruse. The dwelling was turned completely about, and all the doors and windows were blown out, and the barn was demolished. All telephone and electric poles and wires were down and Western Ohio cars were stopped.

“From Moulton the tornado continued in a northeast course through the county, unroofing or leveling dwellings and barns all along its pathway. The buildings on the farm of Mrs. Ellen Crawford, four miles north of Wapakoneta, were leveled and the orchard was destroyed, the trees being blown out by the roots or leveled to the ground. This farm was tenanted by a son, F. A. Crawford and wife and adopted son, but all miraculously escaped serious injury. A little more than a mile northeast the Two-Mile Christian church was completely wrecked. The congregation had gathered for evening service, but fortunately a short time before the approach of the tornado word had been received that the minister could not be present and the congregation was dismissed, otherwise there probably would have been great loss of life. The barns on the C. M. Lee and Fred Frank farms were wrecked and the house, barn and other buildings on the William McDougale farm, one and a half miles southwest of Cridersville were leveled by the storm, as also were all the buildings on the farm leased by Fred Snyder near the Christian church. Moses Archer, aged fifty-five, who resided on a farm east of Cridersville, was instantly killed by falling timber. He and his family had retired for the night and when the tornado struck the building a heavy piece of timber fell across the bed, striking him on the head and fracturing his skull. Fletcher Chapel M. E. church, east of Cridersville, was unroofed and the members of the Samuel Spyker family

were injured when their house was blown down. All the buildings on this farm were completely wrecked.

"In the pathway of the tornado west of Moulton buildings were blown down or wrecked on the E. Carl Lietz farm tenanted by Wilder Colvin and family, the Fred Quellhorst farm, the John Quellhorst farm, the August Dammeyer farm, the Herman Harmeyer farm, the William Katterheinrich farm and the Bert Miller farm, where every building on the place was a complete wreck. Barns also were blown down on the farms of August Wittenbrink, Martin Kuck, Ed Kellermeyer, Louis Schierhold and Ed Kuenning. On the Louis Link farm northeast of Moulton a fine barn and all outbuildings, including a garage and new automobile, were destroyed. Besides the killed in this storm more than a score suffered personal injury, while perhaps fifty or more whom we have not mentioned suffered losses from buildings being wrecked, live stock killed and orchards and valuable timber destroyed. The stories of all persons who went through the storm differ only in detail. None of them know how it happened. All of them agree, however, that the tornado lasted but a few seconds."

LATER DESTRUCTIVE STORMS.

The destructive cyclone that swept through the northern part of Auglaize county on Monday, April 17, 1922, traveled from the southwest to the northeast in the same general direction taken by the tornado above described. Persons caught in the path of this storm say that the sound of the approaching storm was as that of a mighty airplane; then a roaring and crashing of timbers, and in an instant it was all over. This was succeeded by a moment of calm and then a steady blow. This storm had all the terrifying characteristics of the "twisters" of the Western plains. It was preceded by a funnel-shaped cloud, an electrical storm of unusual severity and a heavy downpour of rain. What telephone wires remained after the storm were kept busy summoning help from Wapakoneta and nearby towns, and parties quickly were

organized to search the ruins of dwelling houses for missing persons. Many were injured, but only one person, J. M. Riley, north of Wapakoneta, died from injuries received.

The path of this storm, beginning at the home of Leslie Zerkle, west of Buckland, and continuing to a point near Westminster, in Allen county, was a scene of desolation. On the Zerkle farm the house was unroofed. On the Henry Holtzapple farm a barn was torn down and on the William Gochenour farm two good barns, two silos, a tool shed and a granary were destroyed, while two head of horses were badly injured and the orchard was uprooted. At Stanley Scott's farm the new and modern dwelling house was moved off the foundation and was badly damaged, while just across the highway Mrs. Alice Dingledine's home was demolished, together with barn, granary, orchard and fences, and trees were blown about over the surrounding country. All the buildings on the Wes Haas farm, including a wind pump, were blown down with the exception of the dwelling houses, and trees in the yard and orchard were destroyed. A barn was unroofed on the Eldon Shappel farm, tenanted by Orville Bowsher, and the dwelling, all outbuildings and wind pump were completely wrecked. Mrs. Bowsher and her month-old baby were in bed at the time of the storm and miraculously escaped death, the woman being able safely to crawl out from beneath the wreckage with her babe, and in an almost nude state to walk through the driving rain to the home of John H. Bowsher nearly a mile distant. On the J. M. Riley farm all the buildings were blown away and the family, consisting of the husband, wife and one child, were all injured, Mr. Riley fatally. The Eldon Shappel farm was the scene of desolation. It had a fine set of buildings and all were destroyed, together with the fences, trees and some live stock. One horse, a valuable animal, was blown nearly a quarter of a mile and was so badly injured that it was deemed an act of mercy to kill it. Other farmers who lost their homes, barns or out buildings were Clell Mowery, E. F. Reichelderfer, Harvey Mowery, Elmer DeLong, Harvey Ritter, Lydia

Mowery, Hartman Fritz, A. C. Golden and Charles Ebersole. Everything in the path of the tornado, including wire fences, all telephone and telegraph lines and poles and much valuable timber, was razed.

When a little more than two months later, Tuesday, June 27, 1922, a terrific wind and hail storm passed through the northern section of Auglaize county almost equal damage was done, buildings, standing timber and growing crops in the path of the storm being destroyed. This storm was not of the "twister" kind that had wrought such destruction along much the same path in the preceding April, but it was little less destructive and the loss to farmers in this county was estimated at not less than \$100,000. From St. Marys, where the damage to electric lines put the power and light plant out of commission and the roof was blown off the cigar factory, the storm took a northeast course, doing great damage in the vicinity of Glynwood, in Moulton township. At Glynwood the roof was blown off St. Patrick's Catholic church. On the Mary Connoughton farm nearby the forest trees were stripped and all the windows on the west side of the house were broken. A hen setting on a nest in a fence corner was found with hail banked six inches high around her, but undisturbed and faithful to her trust. This faithful hen was uninjured but 200 other chickens of the flock were killed. Continuing in a northeasterly direction from Glynwood, the storm seemed to center at the Joseph Doorley farm, where the garage was blown down, the silo wrecked, windows blown out of the house, fences leveled and the crops utterly ruined. A silo was wrecked on the John Riebesell farm near Moulton and west of that place telephone poles were blown across the paved highway, blocking traffic. On the north side of Wapakoneta a silo was blown down and many trees were stripped of their branches. Northeast of the city a large barn on the Roy Tieben farm was wrecked and a barn on the Mrs. Daniel Fox farm nearby was blown down. Northwest of town the roof on the barn on John Madigan's farm was blown off and silos on the farms of Frank Con-

noughton, north of Glynwood, and William Kohler, on the Washington pike, were destroyed. Many others were losers by reason of this storm, but fortunately there was no loss of life.

SIMILAR STORMS OF FORTY YEARS AGO.

In the middle '80s there were two similar storms, occurring two years apart. In 1884 a revolving storm passed through the townships of St. Marys, Moulton, Duchouquet and Union, blowing down houses, unroofing barns and uprooting trees, besides entailing much further damage in the destruction of growing crops. In May, 1886, a second tornado swept through much the same district, starting in St. Marys township and sweeping on to Union township, where it changed to a northeast direction. Many buildings in the track of this storm were destroyed and forest trees and orchards were uprooted. It is narrated that this latter storm was accompanied by violent electrical discharges, resembling the rapid firing of heavy artillery, these discharges apparently being from the earth upward and presenting the appearance of tongues of fire. Professor Williamson's recollection of this phenomenon was that "as the storm passed over forests the electrical tongues shot upward to a considerable distance above the tree tops, presenting a scene of great sublimity." In his observations concerning storms throughout this region the Professor set out that "this county has never been visited by a violent storm either from the northeast or southeast, nor do the clouds from any eastern point between north and south exhibit many electrical phenomena. But from every direction on the opposite side of the meridian they come charged with lightning and are driven by impetuous winds." It is recalled that in the summer of 1894 a cloud-burst occurred at Wapakoneta, where four inches of rain fell within a period of twenty minutes. On a Sunday afternoon in June, 1915, eight inches of hail fell in the business section of Wapakoneta within about the same length of time.

Concerning climatic changes in progress throughout this region, Professor Williamson, who was a close meteorologi-

cal observer, concluded that "the productive character of the soil varies much at the present time (written twenty years ago) from what it was in the time of the early settlement of the county. At that time the ponds and swails were filled with water during the greater part of the year. From these reservoirs vapors were constantly ascending through the dense foliage of the forest, saturating the air to a degree most favorable to the growth of vegetation. All varieties of fruit trees flourished at that time and bore fruit in abundance. The temperature, too, ranged higher and was more equable during the spring and summer months. The winter temperature was not so low—rarely falling below zero—and the precipitation of snow was greater and lay on the ground for greater lengths of time. Such were the conditions of climate from 1845 to the winter of 1855-6, within which time large areas of forest were cleared away and the surface partially drained. Following the changed conditions the atmosphere became dryer and the temperature lower. In the winter of 1855-6 temperature sank to 15 degrees below zero, thereby killing all the peach trees in central and northern Ohio. Fifteen years later the climate became so dry as to affect the apple crop. Since that time there has been a gradual decrease in the amount of humidity during the summer season and a corresponding diminution in the amount of snow in the winter. With the increased dryness of the atmosphere certain varieties of timber began to die. About 1855 the shellbark hickory began to exhibit signs of decay, which continued until that variety of timber was greatly reduced. The decay of hard maple, beech and oak commenced soon afterward and is still in progress."

THE COLD NEW YEARS DAY OF 1863.

January 1st, 1863, so often referred to as the "cold New Year's day," was a day to be remembered, for it was the coldest day in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. On the afternoon of the 31st of December—New Year's Eve—the temperature was unusually high, being slightly above 70 de-

grees, but on New Year's morning the thermometers registered 30 to 35 degrees below zero, or a change within twenty-four hours of more than 100 degrees.

Never will the persons then living, eight years old or more, forget that day as long as they live for it was impossible to remain out of doors any length of time without paying the penalty. A stiff wind was blowing and it was full of moisture, making it impossible to endure very long. It was the custom in those days, in the country especially, for the neighbors to gather at some designated place and spend the evening in social intercourse and feasting on apples, cider, cake, etc., and then near the hour of midnight the men would go out and as they would say "shoot the old year out and the New Year in." There were gathered here and there young and old, in almost every neighborhood on this eventful New Year's Eve fully expecting to return home shortly after midnight but it had grown so cold by that time that few of them ventured out and they remained at their neighbor's home all night without retiring. The only exceptions were men who had left their wives and children at home and they felt impelled to start home to protect their families. Many of them, however, suffered from frozen feet or ears. This unusual cold snap was felt throughout the United States, and many Union soldiers were frozen to death in the Southern states. The records show that many hundreds of people were frozen in the Middle West and Western states.

LASTLY: THE STUDY OF BIOGRAPHY.

The second volume of this work, to which the attention of the reader now passes, has to do with the biographies of the leading families of Auglaize county; these representing, naturally, in the main what commonly and properly are known as "the old families" of the county. The thoughtful reader of the concluding volume of this work cannot fail in his perusal of its pages to be impressed with the statements that "biography is the home aspect of

history," and that "history, after all, is but collective biography." The collective biographies of the individuals composing a community, under the analysis of the thoughtful student of biography, become the history of the community thus composed. Particularly is this true of such a community as that of which this history treats. In this collection of biographies, therefore, will be found much of the heretofore unwritten history of Auglaize county; intimate and informative details of the lives and labors of those stalwart men who took possession here and then passed on, leaving to their descendants the task of carrying on the great work they had so laboriously and so unselfishly begun. In the generations which have succeeded these "old families" in the main have persisted. In the nature of things, intermarriages in these families have been frequent, so that there has arisen here a fine community of interest based upon ties that bind this community as few such in the state are bound; creating, in fact, a real community, a fine neighborly relation in which all share, and in which all take a proper pride.

Due to these intermarriages and the continuing relations borne by the "old families" to the work of the community, the biographies contained in the succeeding pages will be found to cross and to recross, repeated references being found to the work done by the original settlers in establishing neighborly relations here. There will also be noted throughout these pages repeated references to the influence exerted by the various church establishments that were set up here in the then wilderness in the days of the pioneers and of the manner in which the influence of these respective establishments has persisted in the families now representing the pioneer stock. Other relations will be noted by the thoughtful reader, and it is to these that special attention is called, for in all this correlation there will be found much that will help in the critical interpretation of the real history of the community which the historian has so understandingly presented in the pages which precede this.

Therefore the biographical volume of this work will be found to possess as much of value to the student of history

as has the historical volume and its pages should be read with as much care, for therein often will be found statements of fact that will make clear passages in the present volume that otherwise might not carry their full meaning save to those fully informed regarding the history of their home county. To the intelligent student of biography the following volume ought to prove a veritable "mine" of interest and to him is addressed a special invitation to give the succeeding pages his most thoughtful attention. If read from a correlative viewpoint they will be found to be not only wonderfully informative, but intensely interesting, and ought to stimulate the growing interest in the science that treats of tracing pedigrees as well as to accent the importance of the same in connection with local historical research, pointing out the duty of the family to preserve a record of individual descent.

Of late years there has been created in this country an interest in genealogical research that has led to much well-directed and intelligent action along that line. Quite a few Auglaize county families have carefully compiled records carrying much valuable information of a genealogical character relating to their particular lines, and it is exceedingly gratifying to note that American families are thus apparently finding much of interest in this process of taking stock of who and what they are. The threads that were broken in the days of immigration are being picked up, and connections re-established with the mother country, while members of successive generations of the American descent are being traced back and set out in sober printed array with those of the present generation in order that their posterity may have a proper introduction to their forefathers and to their "folks." It is an interesting study, and those who have been caught in the mazes of this sort of research declare it to be a most fascinating one.

That you may know
'Tis no sinister nor no awkward claim
Picked from the wormholes of long vanish'd days,
Nor from the dust of old oblivion rak'd,
He sends you this most memorable line,
In every branch truly demonstrative;
Willing you, overlook this pedigree.

—King Henry V.

Shakespeare knew the value of "pedigree." The modern live stock breeder knows—none better—the value of "pedigree." If it was important to the claimant of a throne to show that his claim to individual descent was "no sinister nor no awkward claim picked from the wormholes of long vanish'd days, nor from the dust of old oblivion rak'd;" if it is important to the intelligent breeder of live stock to know that the strain of his breeding stock runs unsullied, is it not equally important that American families should have some definite information relative to the lines from which they have sprung? Hence the present value of definite genealogical research; hence the creation of a sense of duty on the part of each family to preserve a record of individual descent,—a service of inestimable value to future generations of the family—for unless records that are now perhaps readily accessible for such a purpose are thus definitely preserved they in all probability will be lost to the succeeding generation, or at least consigned to "the dust of old oblivion," thus entailing upon the family a distinct and definite loss that will be a matter of regret to every member thereof. Remember: "Every man is a quotation from all his ancestors." "Rely upon it," said William E. Gladstone, "that the man who does not worthily estimate his own dead forefathers will himself do very little to add credit or do honor to his own country." It is trusted therefore that it will not be regarded as presumptuous in this connection to suggest the importance of preserving such records. Your grandchildren and theirs some day may be vitally interested to know who your grandparents

were. The preservation of such details of genealogy may spare them what otherwise might prove a difficult, if not a wholly fruitless, task.

Those who have sought through the biographical volume of this History of Auglaize County thus to preserve family records as a part of the definite history of their county have done well, and are to be commended for their forethought. They have responded to the call of a plain family duty and future generations of their line will thank them. They thus have relieved their posterity of the graceless task of being compelled to pick "from the wormholes of long vanish'd days" an "awkward claim" to descent. They have made their "memorable line in every branch truly demonstrative." They have obeyed the exhortations, "Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation." "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations; ask thy father and he will show thee; thy elders and they will tell thee." "Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things."





